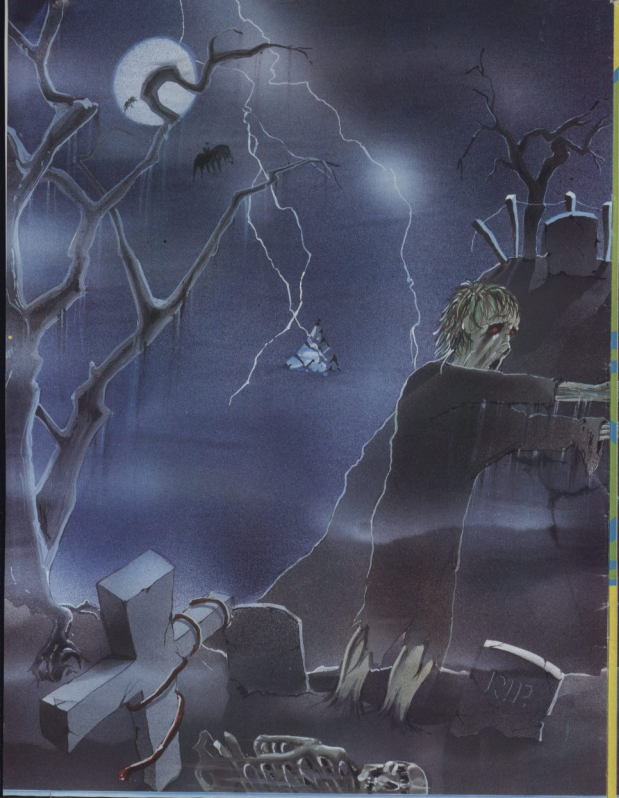


PYRACURSE

Legless O'Donnell's Diary

COMPUTER +VIDEO GAMES

PRICE OF MAGICK PREVIEWED/WARGAMES SPECIAL
GREEN BERET CHALLENGE/DOMESDAY COMPETITION
C+VG'S SEARCH FOR A CHAMPION/FREE BIG RED POSTER!
TAKE A TOUR OF THE UNIVERSE/WIN REDHAWK & PROJECT THESIUS



now! from the programming team
that brought you the Sensational No.1

COMMANDER
comes

Coming Soon

GHOSTS 'N' GOBLINS

Officially Licenced Coin-Op Classic from

CAPCOM



Mail Order

Just send a cheque or postal order payable to Elite, or quote your Access or Visa no. to get your copy of Ghost's 'n' Goblins

Spectrum 48/128 — £7.95 (cass)

Amstrad — £8.95 (cass)

— £14.95 (disc)

Commodore 64/128 — £9.95 (cass)

— £14.95 (disc)

BBC B/Electron — £9.95 (cass)

— £14.95 (disc)

Commodore C16/+ 4 — £7.95 (cass)

elite

FEATURES

- 14 THE PYRACURSE STORY
- 19 PYRACURSE COMPETITION
- 44 WARGAMES
- 50 WORLD OF VENGEANCE
- 53 GAME MAKERS
- 56 HERBERT ON THE SLOPES/
SPECTRUM LISTING
- 58 BIG RED POSTER
- 64 DOMESDAY PROJECT
- 66 TOUR OF THE UNIVERSE
- 69 TEAM GOLA COMPETITION
- 70 JIM'S JOYSTICK JURY
- 72 REDHAWK COMPETITION
- 75 TOP 30 SOFTWARE CHARTS
- 77 ADVENTURE NEWS
- 78 ADVENTURE HELPLINE
- 82 THE PRICE OF MAGICK REVIEWED
- 88 PROJECT THESIU'S COMPETITION
- 91 IDEAS CENTRAL
- 94 ARCADE ACTION
- 97 THE BUG HUNTERS
- 102 URIDIUM COMPETITION RESULTS
- 105 EXTRA BITS
- 110 MAILBAG
- 114 NEXT MONTH

NEWS & REVIEWS

21 REVIEWS THIS ISSUE:

GAME OF THE MONTH: *The Planets*. **C+ VG HITS!** *International Karate*, *Mermaid*, *Mantronix*, *Bug Eyes*, *Shogun*. Other reviews: *Biggles*, *Tantalus*, *Pentagram*, *Redhawk*, *Popeye*, *Kickstart* plus more . . .

73 ADVENTURE

Keith looks at *Ballyhoo*, the latest from Infocom, the **Fourmost Adventure** compilation, plus Level 9's *Price of Magick* and a glimpse of life behind the scenes at the Austin's HQ down in deepest Somerset. And a special *Adventure Creator* offer.

8 NEWS

C+VG's Programmer of the Year **Steven Crow**, has a new game on the way — read all about it! **Uridium** on the Spectrum? **Leaderboard** — US Gold's answer to Golf Construction Set — in Hot Gossip. What do Zoids and the Channel 4 chart show have in common? Discover on page 8.



ARCADE ACTION/P94



© 1983 King Features Syndicate, Inc.

POPEYE/REVIEWS/P21



TOUR OF THE UNIVERSE/P66

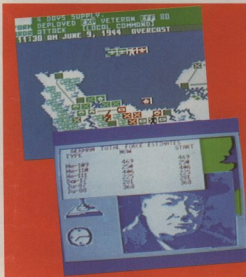
INSIDE STORY

● You'll curse yourself if you don't get your hands on this month's C+VG. Why? Because we've got a preview of the best game to hit the Spectrum for ages. It's called **Pyracurse** and it's the first game by a couple of new programmers called **Mark Goodall** and **Keith Prosser**. We've got a special Pyracurse competition too — could you win the C+VG explorers outfit? If you are interested in ancient things — like C+VG's deputy editor **Paul Boughton** — then you'll want to get involved in our **Domesday Project** Time Capsule competition. Just what would you send back to the future?

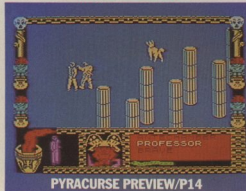
More history from **Stephen Badsey**, our resident war games expert. He's been looking at the games of the battle and bringing you his verdict. Into the future with C+VG's American ace reporter **Marshall M. Rosenthal** who has been on a **Tour of the Universe** — an experience not

to be missed! Master Adventurer **Keith Campbell** has been hot on the heels of **Level 9's** programmers and brings you news of their latest and greatest adventure **The Price of Magic** plus the one and only **Adventure Helpline**! **Extra Bits** — C+VG's round up of all the things you ever want to interface — returns this issue and **Brendan Cavanagh** tells you everything you wanted to know about **Play By Mail** games but were afraid to ask. All this and the **FREE IDEAS CENTRAL HANDBOOK** stuck tastefully on the front AND the special pull out **Big Red** poster inside! And you still get change from the quid. Know what I mean, Harry?

Tim



WAR GAMES/P44



PYRACURSE PREVIEW/P14



SPLITTING IMAGES/P22



DESIGNED & PROGRAMMED BY: BARNET SOFTWARE



THE BIG CAVE ADVENTURE/P76



THE BUG HUNTERS/97



EDITOR
Tim Matcalle
DEPUTY EDITOR
Paul Boughton
EDITORIAL ASSISTANT
Lesley Walker
SUB-EDITOR
Seamus St John
DESIGN
Craig Kennedy
ADVENTURE WRITERS
Keith Campbell
Paul Coppins
Steve Donoghue
Jim Douglas
AMERICAN CORRESPONDENT
Marshall M. Rosenthal
ARCADES
Clare Edgely
SOFTWARE CONSULTANT
Tony Takoushi
PUBLICITY
Marcus Bish
ADVERTISEMENT MANAGER
Louise Matthews
ASSISTANT AD MANAGER
Garry William
AD PRODUCTION
Debbie Pearson
PUBLISHER
Rita Lewis
COVER
Steve Brown
Ian Watson
... and the Bug Hunters
Jerry Paris
EDITORIAL AND ADVERTISEMENT
OFFICES
Prisry Court
30-32 Farringdon Lane
London EC1R 3AU
Tel: 01-251 6222
July-December 98,258



Now anyone over fourt
can take their savings



Have you noticed that most of the people who queue up at Servicetells are ad

Account opening requirements and conditions must be complied with. Terms and conditions may vary. Seven days notice of withdrawal is required to avoid loss of interest. Registered office: 40 Leobury
have a minimum of £25 in your account when applying for a Servicecard. You can apply when

een
s out.



Well look again.

are adults?

We reckon that by the time you're 14, you could do with a savings account with a Servicecard. Like the NatWest On Line Account. At the mere press of a button you can withdraw up to £25 a week of your savings, check your balance or even demand a statement. You'll also get a regular magazine, a folder and a wallet with everything you need to handle your account. So what are you waiting for?

Our queues are now being joined by the likes of you.



London EC2P 2BP. Account is available to anyone under 19. A minimum of £5 opens an account, of which £1 goes towards the cost of the opening pack and the remainder is credited to your account. You must opening your account with a minimum of £26 of which £1 goes towards the account opening pack.



NEWS

■ US Gold is hoping to score a big success with **World Cup Carnival**, the official World Cup computer football game. The packaging will feature the official World Cup 1986 Pique Mascot.

A team of programmers have been working on the game for six months and US Gold is predicting the game will "reach new standards in football simulation".



It will feature a penalty mode, a choice of kit for this year's teams, a playing skill option and results table.

A full colour poster and a progress chart will be supplied with the game. And that's not all. Also included will be a free US Gold sew on patch.

World Cup Carnival will be available on the Commodore 64, C16, Spectrum and Amstrad. It will cost £9.95 on cassette and £14.95 on disc.

■ The legendary **Flash Gordon** is set to explode onto the computer next month. C+VG has had a sneak look at part of the Commodore version of the game and it's looking very impressive. Part of the game includes a satisfying punch-up.



Mastertronic, who has spent around seven months developing the game, says it should be released for the 128K Commodore and Spectrum first,

followed shortly by 64K and 48K versions.

Meanwhile, watch out for Mastertronic's **Molecule Man** on the Spectrum for £1.99. It's one of the most impressive budget titles for some time.

Molecule Man is the first game 256, 3D maze screens, collecting 16 circuits to activate a teleporter and escape.

But what makes the game extra good value is the inclusion of a maze designer. This enables you to construct your own maze, should you complete the original game.

Molecule Man is the first game from Robin Thompson. Robin, who has been unemployed for three years, took up programming to stop himself becoming bored.

"I started programming for something to do," he said.

"It was either that or sitting down and listening to the radio all day."

■ Stand by all you Monty fans. **Gremlin Graphics** will be releasing a new game about the Mighty Mole later this year.

The Monty game is just one of the busy schedule of releases from Gremlin. Included are **Jack the Nipper**, in which you can create a comic character to collect naughty points.

Also in the pipeline is a game called **Future Knight**, a combination of space shoot-em-up and adventure, in which the hero must rescue a damsel in distress.

There's also an as yet unnamed Commodore game being produced. C+VG, under an oath of secrecy, has seen a bit of the game and verdict is very interesting. In a way it's a little like that other Gremlin game **Boulder** — it has plenty of bounce.

■ C+VG's Programmer of the Year **Steven Crow** is joining **Hewson's** and his first game for the Oxfordshire based company will be **Firelord** - a medieval arcade adventure featuring Steve's

home in Kent and he saw these nice old buildings which inspired him to write the game. Is this a first? **Firelord** will be released sometime in October.

■ Will you please give a big hand to all the **Zzap 64** readers who voted C+VG their most favourite mag — next to Zzap of course. The readers of the Activation Newsletter were voting in the Zzap 64 readers' survey. Funny, 'cos Zzap came out number two in our own C+VG survey...

■ Forget the American invasion. The French are coming. Thanks to **PSS** and their link with **FRE**, **Activision's** tie-up with **Loriciel** and now the arrival of **Repubic Software**, the UK arm of top Gallic company **Infogrames** the French Connection is growing fast.

Repubic will launch **Mandrake** on four machine formats: Amstrad, CBM 64, MSX and Spectrum (with disk versions for Amstrad and CBM 64), at a cost of £14.95. All versions will be launched within two weeks of each other and NO delays are likely as the French/English translations are already complete.

Mandrake is a graphic adventure of epic proportions, containing over 260K of program — which has necessitated the use of a twin cassette pack for the tape versions — a detailed instruction book and a ten chapter booklet, the latter item revealing a great number of hints on how to surmount problems encountered in the solving of this widely acclaimed



own special style of graphic presentation. You play the part of a medieval hero type out to free his village from the clutches of the evil **Firelord** or **Firequeen** — Steve hasn't quite made up his mind yet. The village graphics are really pretty. Steve does a lot of cycling around the countryside near his

■ Great News for **Rogue Trooper** fans! The new-style **Macmillan Software** outfit are releasing a game based on the cult character from the 2001 AD comic. It's being programmed by those other cult personalities at **Design Design**. Watch for C+VG's exclusive preview of the game coming your way in our September

issue! **Design Design** are working on another project for Macmillan called **Nosferatu** the **Vampyre** based on the two movies of the same name. The most recent starred Klaus Kinski and loads of rats. Both **Rogue Trooper** and **Nosferatu** will be arcade adventures. News and pictures as and when we get them.



■ Watch out — the monsters are coming! But never fear these monsters are quite cute and only appear on your TV. Berk, Boni, and Druff are the stars of a new animated show called **The Trap Door**. And Macmillan Software have persuaded Don Priestly of **Popye** and **Minder** fame — to create the graphics for the game. Berk is a blue blobby monster, the overworked servant of the unseen and bad tempered being who lives upstairs in a mysterious mansion. Berk may have lots to do for the miserable being upstairs but he still finds it hard to resist opening The Trap Door — which is the gateway to the maze of underground passages beneath the castle and home to all manner of strange and unusual creatures. Berk has many adventures with his mates Boni, an old skull who lives in a hole in the wall with his pet Druff.



role playing game.

The program can be played by up to four players, although one person can control all four characters which make up the 'team'. These characters can either be pre-selected or you can make your own choice.

■ **Blackstar** and **SAS Raid** are to be released for the Amstrad 8256 by CRL.

In **Blackstar**, a text adventure by the objective of your quest is to return the power orb to the Lady Artemis.

In **SAS Raid**, a semi-graphic adventure, secret plans have been stolen which give precise details of your base and are now being held in a castle.

Both programs will sell for £14.95.

■ Fancy yourself as a bit of a hero-type? Always getting great scores on **Green Beret** or **Commando**? Think you could do as well in real life? Then why not enter the great **C+VG Combat Zone Challenge**.

Yes, the two top scorers on the top two combat games could joint the C+VG Squad when we visit the Combat Zone again this summer. All you have to do is fill in the coupon below, tell us your score, send us proof in the shape of a screen shot or printed screen dump and you could be well on your way to the Combat Zone!

If you don't know what the Combat Zone is just check out our January issue.

And remember Who Dyes Wins! Closing date for this competition is July 16th. So get those scores in today. The five best runners-up will get a Big Red T-shirt.

Send the coupon below to Computer and Video Games, Combat Zone Challenge, Priory Court, 30-32 Farringdon Lane, London EC1R 3AU.



C+VG COMBAT ZONE CHALLENGE

Name

Address

T-shirt size: Med/Large

Age

Computer owned
MY HIGH SCORE
ON GREEN BERET/
COMMANDO WAS
I enclose screen shot/
screen dump

■ Ye Olde Hypersportes comes at last to the screens of your Amstrad and 64 in early June. **English Software** have been battling away with their long awaited Knight Games medieval tournament game for some time now — but head man Philip Morris told C+VG that both versions are now almost ready and will be ready in time for the summer holidays. The game features eight



medieval events including sword fighting, archery and a vicious looking ball and chain battle. Here's some pretty pictures of the 64 version of this extremely attractive game for you to look at while you wait for it to arrive at your local store. The 64 version will cost £8.95 on tape, £12.95 on disc. Amstrad owners will have find £8.95 for the tape and £14.95 for the disc.

HOT GOSSIP

BY TONY TAKOUSHI

■ Closing my eyes I let my senses drift as the needle hits groove. The music seemed to burst from the speaker and it was all I could do to stop myself singing the chorus "Doo-be-de-dol I wan-naaaa be like you I wanna talk like you walk like you..."

The second verse was even more exciting. "Now, I'm the king of the swingers..." **SWINGERS! YEAH!**

Ever since I played **Leaderboard** I haven't been the same. The words swing and stroke have taken on a whole new meaning.

The last time a sports simulation had this effect on me was when Commodore released **International Soccer** for the C64. That was when I wore out my



Match of the Day record!

All you golf buffs have an awkward choice facing you. **Ariolasoft** have released the **Golf Construction Set** for the C64. **Leaderboard** is not due



VIRGIN GAMES
presents

JAMES CLAVELL'S

SHOGUN



THE GAME...

Set in 1600, in around 130 screens of beautiful Japanese landscape, you must live out the political struggles of the times in this innovative and sophisticated arcade adventure with icon driven commands.

Name

Address

Amstrad 464/664/6128 Cassette (£9.95) ☐ Amstrad 464/664/6128 Disc (£14.95) ☐

Commodore 64/128 Cassette (£9.95) ☐ Commodore 64/128 Disc (£12.95) ☐

Please make cheques and postal orders to Virgin Games Limited and
post to the address below. Please do not post money.

Virgin Games Ltd, 2/4 Vernon Yard, 119 Portobello Road, London W11 2DX

NEWS

for release until July 4th.

Leaderboard is a true arcade version of a golf game. The graphics are super smooth and the emphasis is very much on picking up the joystick and playing.

Leaderboard gives you four courses to choose from and up to four players can compete. There are three levels of difficulty, Amateur, Novice and Professional and a choice of the number of holes played (18, 36 etc.).

To 'get into the groove', there is a practice option (not included in my review copy, but US Gold tells me there is one!) to help you learn to control the power and snap (breaks to left or right on the stroke).

When you play there is a host of information facing you, hole number, par for the hole, course number (1-4), each player's stroke count for the hole, wind direction and yards to the hole.

You start off at a tee (where else?) and have two gages, one for power the other for snap.

Your club choice includes Woods, Irons and Putters. As in real golf the club strength has a clear effect on the type of shot played. Irons loft the ball and woods drive it further, with less bounce.

The game is instantly playable and the presentation borders on arcade quality.

After you have played the shot the screen is redrawn (a little tedious, but the Anriola game is much the same) and you play from your new location. When you reach the green you automatically go into putter mode.

The courses have water and awkward fairways to contend with but there are no trees or bunkers. The Anriola version has both.

At the end of each hole you are shown the leaderboard with your scores and your score against par.

Leaderboard has instant appeal thanks to the quality of presentation but after a few good sessions it tends to lose that knack of pulling you back for one more game.

ArriolaSoft describe their golf game as 'The 3D simulator and course construction set'. It really is. This is the game for the enthusiast and true strategist.

It's not quite as playable as **Leaderboard** and sorely lacks the arcade quality graphics.

Both cost £10 on tape and it really boils down to what you want out of a game. An absorbing arcade class golf game or a quality golf simulation

■ Prepare to have your brains rattled! **Hewson's** are planning an assault on your senses. After they've stunned you with **Pyarcure**, previewed this issue, they'll be hitting you with **Andrew Braybrook's** follow up to **Uridium** called **Alleykat**. This is a futuristic race game

utilising **Uridium** type graphics with extra added enhancements. More details when we have them. Then there's **City Slicker**, the new offering from **Technician Ted** and **swamee Steve Marsden** and **Dave Cooke**. This game is set in London. You play the part of a private detective and your task is to stop the villain — called **Abru Cadabra** — blowing up the Houses of Parliament. The game is a departure from the **Technician Ted** platform style as it features **Back to Skool** type forced perspective graphics and utilises a novel 'screen-flipping' technique.

■ Fourteen-year-old **Garrick Stark** proudly displays the game design which has won him a free trip to San Francisco.

And not only that. His game, **Starblade Quest**, will be turned into a commercial computer game by **Activision**.

Garrick was one of 10,000 people who submitted designs to the competition after it announced on BBC TV's **Saturday Superstore** programme. C+VG's Editor **Tim Metcalfe** was among the judges with



Activision's UK chief **Hugh Reece-Parnell**.

The story submitted by Garrick, who comes from Edinburgh, is about the adventures of mercenary **Jax Starbo** and his quest for the starblade. It took him just three weeks to finish the storyboard for **Starblade Quest**. But it will be three months before **Activision** have completed the game.

■ If you've been watching **Channel 4's Chart Show** on Friday nights you'll have noticed a nifty program on a BBC micro, containing info about the bands appearing on the video — if you are quick enough to read them!

The software for this was created by **Benni Notarianni** and **Anna Williams** of the **Electric Penic Company**. The people who brought you the classic **Zoids** game released on the **Martech** label.

■ Right now we're waxing down our storyboards for **British Surfing Association/Computer + Video Games Computer Surfing Championships 1986**.

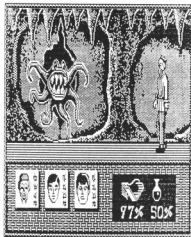
And if you're good enough at riding the waves, you could win a place in the final to be held in Newquay, Cornwall, in September, which will coincide with the **World Surfing Championships**.

The **Computer Championships** will be fought out on **Surf Champ**, from the Irish software house, **New Concepts**.

New Concepts says **Surf Champ**, which is now available on the **Spectrum** and **Commodore 64**, is the ultimate sports simulation, as near the real thing as possible. The game is also revolutionary in that it abandons the use of a joystick or the keyboard as a means of control.

■ Our spies tell us that **U.S. Gold** will be releasing the home computer version of **Gauntlet** — as featured in **The Edge's Arcade Action** pages way back in December. **Gauntlet** is a D&D style adventure and features characters like **Questor the Elf**, **Thor the Warrior**, **Merlin the Magician** and **Wynia the Valkyrie** and the evil **Grimreaper**. The arcade version features four player action with simultaneous play — but a solo player can also enjoy **Gauntlet**. The characters have to find an exit from the dungeon, kill **Grimreaper** and fight of legions of **Grunk** and **Lobbers**. Heistic stuff!

■ Martial arts mania hasn't gone away since **Fist** exploded on the scene last summer. Now prepare your self for **Fist II: Return of the Legend**. This game — programmed by **Gregg Barnett** — will hit the streets sometime in August and will take the **Fist** legend one stage further. Our hero will have weapons and will fight different characters in different locations. **Fist** will have to grapple with his opponents as well as using his martial arts skills. Watch for C+VG's preview coming soon.



■ Last issue we told you about **Big Trouble in Little Shining**, the latest game of the film from **Activision/Electric Dreams** stable. Well, in fact it's **Little CHINA**. Sorry! Anyway here's a look at the storyboard of the game which is being developed by the **Focus** team. The basic idea is that a Chinese villain called **Lo Pan** is trying to appease a demon in order to secure the gift of immortality. To do this **Lo Pan** has first to marry — then sacrifice — a Chinese girl with green eyes. **Lo Pan** has done the capturing bit — in fact he's got two girls! — by the time you arrive on the scene. Now it's your job to help the three rescuers **Wang Chi**, **Egg Shen** and **Jack Burton** to save the ladies from **Lo Pan's** evil clutches. There's lots of martial arts action involved in the film.

LOAD-UP THE H

Yie Ar KUNG-FU™



Konami

Expect the unexpected and FIGHT for your LIFE in this all-action arcade chart-topper. Master the ten moves and you may just survive the deadly exponents of the martial arts only to meet them again in the Temple. You must beware of your enemies and their individual weapons . . . they're not immortal but then neither are you.

SPECTRUM

£7.95

COMMODORE 64

£8.95

AMSTRAD



Konami

Mikie — he enrages the teachers and enraptures the girls! His knock-out frantic fun loving plays havoc in the classroom, the locker room and the cafeteria. This high school high-jinx features "Hip-Zap", 'Door Attack' and crazy pie fights but can he hand his love letter to his girlfriend?

SPECTRUM

£7.95

COMMODORE 64

£8.95

AMSTRAD



If you think you talk your way out of trouble, beware you may be talking your way into it. Interactive bubble speech adds a further dimension to the superb 3D graphics of this arcade style thriller adventure. Gangsters of the underworld are sizing you up for 'hit'. There is one who can help if you can find her.

SPECTRUM

£7.95

COMMODORE 64

£8.95

AMSTRAD



...the name
of the game

FIRE YOUR

Imagine Software (1984) Limited
6 Central Street, Manchester M2 5NS
Tel: 061 834 3939 Telex: 669977

HOT SHOTS AND



you can
out of
e...
alking
to it!
ubtle
ds a
sion to
(3D)
this
thriller
e.
of the
d are
o for a
one girl
if you
er!

IM
5
5
D

PING PONG™



Konami

Play head to head or against the computer in this, Konami's first and best table tennis simulation. Just like the arcade original the 3D graphics and playing features such as the Back-Spin, Forehand Smash, Top-Spin, Back-Hand Return and many more all help to test your lightning reflexes and skill of touch and timing.

SPECTRUM

£7.95

COMMODORE 64

£8.95

AMSTRAD



Konami

Play Green Beret and you'll get some idea of what this crack commando core is all about. You are a highly trained combat machine, you fear no man. You must succeed against immeasurable odds to infiltrate all four enemy strategic defence installations. You are a marked man... will your enemy feel your mark!

SPECTRUM

£7.95

COMMODORE 64

£8.95

AMSTRAD

R IMAGINATION!

Screen shots taken from various computer formats



Meet Legless O'Donnell, ace reporter for the *Saturday Post*. Here we present O'Donnell's own untold story. The story of the murky deeds behind the legend of Pyracurse. Discover Daphne's dark secrets and O'Donnell's deadly dilemma . . .

PYRACURSE



Chapter One

"O'Donnell!" Patrick O'Donnell hastily took his feet off his desk and shoved the whisky bottle out of sight. He jumped to answer his Editor's bellow which echoed across the *Saturday Post*'s busy newsroom. "Another waste of time," he muttered to himself.

The Editor shouted at the phone, slammed it down and then glared balefully at him.

"O'Donnell," growled the Editor. "That idiot Pemberton-Smythe has got back from South America and has discovered some funny tomb or other. I want you to get me a story."

"Everyone's heard about it already!" protested O'Donnell. It's a dead story."

"Get me a story, and you better make it a good one. Lots of human interest."

O'Donnell sighed, "OK. You're the boss."

Chapter Two

The next day O'Donnell and several other reporters were gathered at the mansion of Sir Pericles Pemberton-Smythe. As he looked around the ornate house he was impressed. O'Donnell felt he was a rich man at heart, he just didn't have any money. What money he had, he spent on drink.

When the lecture started Pemberton-Smythe droned on about ancient civilisations. "Boring idiot," muttered O'Donnell. He wanted human interest. The romantic angle. That's what sold papers like the *Saturday Post*.

The old man began to describe the background of his expedition to the tomb of the daughter of Xipe



Totec, an ancient South American Sinu God.

This was rapidly becoming worse than school. O'Donnell was just dropping off to sleep when Sir Pericles paused and lifted his glasses onto his forehead.

"Perhaps you'd be interested in this inscription," he said. "I copied it from over the entrance to the tomb."

"My dear friend, Professor Kite here, has kindly translated the symbols," Pemberton-Smythe added.

The old explorer handed the paper over to a nervous young academic at his side. "Err, Gentlemen of the Press," he began. "The inscription is a curse. The meaning is rather obscure, but a rough translation is that a hideous death will befall the daughter of whoever violates the tomb. I am sure that Pemberton-Smythe would have thought twice if he knew he was risking his daughter by going on.

All eyes immediately switched to the attractive girl sitting at a desk in the corner. She blushed delicately.

"That must be Daphne," thought O'Donnell.

After the lecture was over the journalists jostled to get at the bits and pieces the explorer had brought back.

O'Donnell was not interested in broken pots and other rubbish. He was interested in Daphne. He found her still sitting at her desk.

O'Donnell introduced himself. "Aren't you interested in archaeology, Mr O'Donnell?" she asked. "Of course," he lied "I just don't like crowds," pointing at the crush around the exhibits.

O'Donnell eyed the girl appreciatively. She had everything, youth, beauty, and money.

"Do you ever go to London?" he asked as casually as he could. "Sometimes. Why?" she replied.

"No reason, except that I'd like to meet you."

"I don't think Roger would like me to see another man, we're engaged you know."

"Lucky man," sniffed O'Donnell enviously, eyeing the Professor who was busy swapping anecdotes with Pericles.

Chapter Three

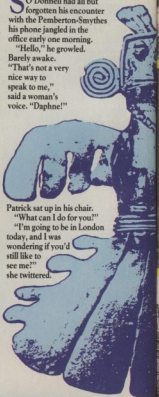
Some months later when O'Donnell had all but forgotten his encounter with the Pemberton-Smythes his phone jangled in the office early one morning.

"Hello," he growled. Barely awake.

"That's not a very nice way to speak to me," said a woman's voice. "Daphne!"

Patrick sat up in his chair. "What can I do for you?"

"I'm going to be in London today, and I was wondering if you'd still like to see me?" she twittered.



CURSE THE UNTOLD STORY



O'Donnell didn't need to be asked twice.

Daphne was already waiting when O'Donnell arrived, breathless, for their lunchtime date.

"Hello!" he said, for once lost for words. She looked up and O'Donnell saw she had been crying.

"What's wrong?" he asked.

"It's Daddy," she said tearfully.

"Shortly after the lecture he returned to South America. He hasn't been heard of for months."

"Don't worry," soothed O'Donnell. "He'll be in touch."

You idiot!" she said suddenly, stamping her foot. "I don't want to hear from him. I want the old fool dead! I can't live on a pittance you know. I want the estate. I

want to be rich while I'm young enough to enjoy it. I want YOU to help him too. STAY lost!"

O'Donnell was shocked. Why was she was she

telling him this? Daphne leaned forward. She looked coy and alluring. "You find me attractive, don't you?" she said. "Of course, but you're engaged to Roger."

O'Donnell swallowed hard. "He's only interested in old pots, I want some fun!"

Obviously there was still a chance for Patrick.

Daphne outlined her plan. She would go in search of her father, as befits a dutiful daughter. Roger and O'Donnell would go with her. O'Donnell's paper would pick up the bill.

Once in Columbia they would follow the Pemberton-Smythe's trail until they discovered him. If he was not already dead O'Donnell would have to "dispose" of him. Roger would be "lost" later.

"I'm sure you know what to do about Daddy," said Daphne in her sweet little voice. "As for Roger—well, he's always liked jungles."

O'Donnell saw Daphne in a different light. She was not a young helpless girl, but a hard and ruthless woman prepared to go to any lengths for what she wanted.

O'Donnell had doubts, and Daphne saw them in his eyes. She smiled softly at O'Donnell.

"Of course, perhaps you don't want me, or my money..."

Chapter Four

"An Expedition to South America!" exploded the Editor. "Why not a trip to the moon!"

"This is a good idea. The human angle. The loving daughter and her devoted fiancé go battling through the heat of the jungle in search of her father, and the *Saturday Post* there every step of the way."

The Editor sat back to think, chewing his cigar. "OK, O'Donnell I'll buy it, how much and how long?"

"It's for the benefit of the paper," said O'Donnell disingenuously.

Chapter Five

The boat arrived in Quito a week later. The heat was almost unbearable, and there were flies everywhere.

Roger and Patrick went in search of a guide who could lead them to the tomb, leaving Daphne to rest in the hotel.

They were directed to a bar in the city where they found an old man who had lived in the Sinu jungle.

"Yes, I know the place you seek, but I will not take you there," he said slowly.

"Why not?" said Roger. "We'll pay you well."

The old man shook his head. "You could not pay enough, Señor. Not even if you offered me all the gold of El Dorado. The gods guard their rest, my friends. The do not like to be disturbed."

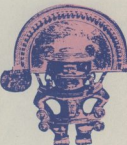
"Long ago the god Xipe Totec came to the Sinu, down from a night sky in his silver fire chariot. Over many years the people grew in the skills of war and peace."

"He was a cruel master, only the blood of his people could sustain him. When the renewal of his being was needed, he would rest for many months, until ready for his servants to wake him."

Undeterred by the old man's grisly tale Roger explained their mission to find Pemberton-Smythe. The old man relented.

"I thought you to be mere treasure hunters. But I can see you have a real need to reach the lost tomb. I am too old to go on an expedition through the jungle—but I do have this map which will help you..."

He pulled a crumpled and torn piece of parchment from among the rags which clothed his thin frame. O'Donnell thought it looked like a strip of human skin...



ACTION! ACTION! ACTION!



Biggles

Packed with all the action and atmosphere of the movie, Biggles is a multipart game that'll keep you on the edge of your seat right to the end of your mission.

Spectrum · Commodore 64 · Amstrad CPC £9.95 tape

Commodore disk £12.95 · Amstrad disk £14.95

Biggles t-shirts, photo scarves, button badges and stickers available too – ask your retailer or call us direct.

DYNAMITE DAN II

Dynamite Dan's back – and how! There's 200 screens of challenging gameplay, simply crawling with intelligent aliens out to trap you, to keep you on your toes (which will be tapping like mad to the amazing music, too!)

Spectrum £7.95 tape



ACTION REFLEX

The brand-new, all action, Medusa label launches out with a real smasher! It's a frantic, multilevel. Beat the clock ball game – and where did you see that red-and-white chequered ball before...?

Spectrum £7.95 tape

STRIKE FORCE HARRIER

Fly by the seat of your pants at the controls of the Harrier, one of the world's most exciting combat aircraft. But beware of enemy ground and air attack as you battle your way to your ultimate target.

Spectrum · Amstrad CPC · BBC/Electron £9.95 tape
BBC disk £12.95 · Amstrad disk £14.95

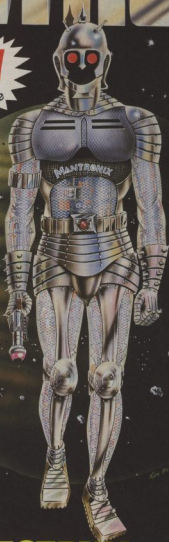
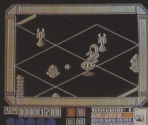


MIRRORSOFT

Purnell Book Centre, Paulton, Bristol BS18 5LQ Tel: (0761) 413301

MANTRONIX

NEW
RELEASE
£7.95
cassette



Mail Order - Send cheque/
postal order to:-

SPECTRUM 48/128

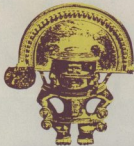
Available soon for the **AMSTRAD & COMMODORE 64**



PROBE SOFTWARE

155 Mitcham Road, London SW17.

Tel: 01-672 9179



Mark Goodall and Keith Prosser are the people behind the latest "adventure movie" from Hewson. *Pyracurse* follows firmly in the footsteps of the "adventure movie" game theme pioneered by Steve Turner in *Avalon* and *Dragoncore*. But you haven't seen anything quite like *Pyracurse*.

Set in South America in the 1930s, the game features three main characters. Patrick O'Donnell, reporter for the *Saturday Post*, Daphne Pemberton-Smythe, Professor Roger Kite and Frobbie the dog go in search of archaeologist Sir Pericles Pemberton-Smythe, who has disappeared in the depths of the Sins region.

Their travels lead them to the tomb of the daughter of Xipe Totec, an ancient and supposedly immortal god. They have to battle with the evil scorpions and

expectantly at the entrance.

At the top of the screen is a window displaying your current mode of operation. You start in mobile mode. To the left, a coloured band indicates the energy status of your current character. If the energy level falls to zero your character will die.

At the bottom centre of the screen is an information and menu window. This is similar to the *Dragoncore* scrolling menu. It allows you to select the different characters, call up an inventory, manipulate objects - like the servant menu in *Dragoncore* - and "lead" other characters. Initially this window displays the name of the character you are controlling and the location that this character finds him/herself in.

As you play you'll discover that the different characters have different skills and uses.

O'Donnell is the strongest member of the group. He's useful for breaking pots which you'll find inside the tomb and which contain useful items. Daphne is better at finding things than the others. Frobbie tends to enjoy digging through the dirt. Professor Kite is good at using the ancient objects left in the tomb.

The monsters you'll find are not very clever but they are extremely single-minded. They will not stray far from their posts but they will chase you if you get too close to them. Fortunately there are ways of disposing of them!

If one of your characters is killed his remains will lie where he fell. One of the other characters may be able to locate the molecular enzyme which gave Xipe Totec immortality. You can use it to revive your dead companion.

There are many items for you to collect and use scattered around the tomb. To pick up an object, select mobile mode and walk up to the item you require. As you collect it the graphic window will flash and show you a picture of the item. Each character may carry up to three items at a time.

If you wish to unlock a chest or activate a key plate with a key collected previously, select the character who has the correct key and place him adjacent to the chest or plate.

Press fire to obtain the selection menu in the lower window and use the control keys or joystick to highlight the word "Inventory".

Press fire again and the three items carried by the character appear in the information window. Scroll to the items required and press fire again.

Use the main controls to manoeuvre the object over the chest or plate and observe the results. When you have done so, press fire again to return you to mobile mode.

To release the characters who are following you, press fire to obtain the selection menu and scroll to the word "Solo" and press fire again.

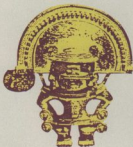
The other characters will now wander off by themselves.

Manipulating the characters and getting them to do all the right things for you will be crucial when playing the game.

Watch out for the strange little droid. What's a droid doing in an ancient South American tomb? Well, you'll just have to play the game to find out.

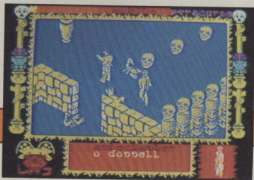
Pyracurse will be released on June 26th and is well worth the £9.95 price tag.

It will run on the Spectrum, Spectrum Plus and 128-in-48K mode. You'll curse yourself if you miss it...



undead guardians that roam the inner chambers. Only by helping each other can they ever hope to survive. The game features isometric 3D projection with full hidden object removal and high speed multi-directional scrolling.

Once the game is loaded you see the imposing entrance to the tomb. The four members of the expedition are standing



We've managed to get our hands on the map which the old man gave to O'Donnell and Professor Kite. Unfortunately the location of the tomb has been wiped mysteriously from the parchment! If you'd like to be the proud owner of the C+VG Pemberton-Smythe Explorer's Kit all you have to do is use the map and clues below to work out exactly where the tomb entrance is. Once you've worked out the location, and the route you have to take to get to the tomb, mark them on the map and send it to Computer and Video Games, Pyracurse Competition, Priory Court, 30-32 Farringdon Lane, London EC1R 3AU. Closing date for the competition is July 16th. Normal C+VG rules apply and the Editor's decision is final. Got that O'Donnell!

Twenty lucky runners up will get copies of *Hudson's Pyracurse* game — if they own a Spectrum — or a copy of the number one smash *Unidrum* for the 64. So what are we waiting for, Tartan!!

Use the map to help you make your decisions. Well tell you if you managed to discover the tomb's entrance next issue. In the meantime just don't follow too many false trails. Don't forget to mark the route you take clearly on the map provided before you send it off to us and don't forget to include the coupon and "decision sheet" with your entry. May the ancient gods protect you — you'll need all the help you can get!

The old man tells you to go further up river to the missionary's encampment marked on the map. When you arrive to question the locals about the whereabouts of the lost tomb. There are rumours about a cave hidden in the jungle to the west of

the mission and about the ruins of an ancient city which you can only reach by travelling further upstream in native canoes.

Do you:

- A) Decide to attempt to discover the lost cave in the jungle?
- B) Hire canoes to travel upriver to find the ruins of the ancient city?

● If you decide to find the cave turn to question 2. If you want to travel to the ancient city turn to question 3.

2. After days of hacking through the thick jungle you come across a vine covered cliff and the dark entrance to a cave. You hack away the vines covering the entrance, light a torch and enter. In the flickering light from the torch you see a golden scorpion ornament hanging on the rock wall underneath the ornament there is an interesting looking pile of sand. Do you:

- A) Get Frobie to dig in the sand?
- B) Try to take the golden scorpion ornament from the wall?

3. It's not an easy journey upriver to the lost city. But after a couple of days — and many sets of rock strewn rapids — your party reaches the ruins. On exploring them Professor Kite finds what looks like an entrance to an underground tunnel. Do you:

- A) Light a torch and enter?
- B) Decide that it looks too dangerous and keep exploring the ruins for clues?

4. After spending days in the jungle/ruins looking for a way across the river you decide it would be nice to find some civilisation and get more supplies for the expedition. You notice on the map that there's a native village not far from the ruins/cave. Do you:

- A) Decide to return to the mission where you know you'll get a friendly reception but which is quite a long trek away?

B) Go to the native village which is much closer?

● If you decide to return to the mission go to question 5. If you decide on a trip to the native village turn to question 6.

5. Back at the mission you come across an old woman who tells you about a strange temple and a mysterious "smoking mountain" in the jungle to the north of the town. To reach them would mean another long trek upriver to the only bridge — a rickety wooden affair across a deep gorge.

Do you:

- A) Decide to find the bridge?
- B) Visit the lost city/cave?

● If you decide to visit the cave turn to question 2. If you decide to visit the ruins turn to question 3. If you decide to travel upriver to the bridge turn to question 7.

6. You discover the native village and the inhabitants seem friendly enough. The chief says that there's a feast planned for the evening and invites you to stay. Do you:

- A) Accept his invitation and allow yourself to be taken to a special hut prepared for visitors?
- B) Say you are behind schedule and ask for provisions to be brought to you so you can leave as soon as possible?

7. You find the bridge. It's made of wooden slats and held together with vines. It doesn't look very safe.

Do you:

- A) Attempt to cross the bridge one at a time?
- B) Try to find some other way to cross the river?
- C) Cross the bridge together?

● If you decide to cross turn to question 8. If you decide to find some other way across turn to question 4.

8. You manage to cross the bridge and find a paved path way

through the jungle. You follow it until you find a crossroads. One road leads into the jungle. One leads towards the "smoking mountain" described by the old woman. Another leads off in the direction of the ancient temple which you can just see above the jungle canopy.

Do you:

- A) Go to the "smoking mountain"?
- B) Go to the temple?
- C) Follow the path into the jungle?

● If you go to the mountain turn to question 9. If you go to the temple turn to question 10. If you follow the path turn to question 11.

9. In the shadow of the "smoking mountain" you discover a deserted village. In one of the houses you find a large jar covered in odd markings. The only way to open it seems to be smash it.

Do you:

- A) Smash the jar?
- B) Return to the crossroads? (Question 8)

10. You reach the temple and climb to the top where you find an entrance to the interior of the structure.

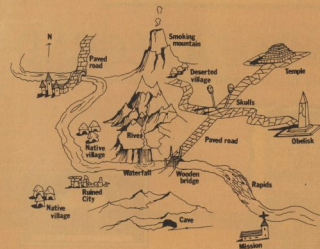
Do you:

- A) Light a torch and enter the temple?
- B) Return to the crossroads? (Question 8)

11. You follow the path into the jungle which seems to close in around you. Suddenly you come across a small clearing. In the centre of the clearing there is a weather-beaten obelisk covered in strange markings. The path doesn't seem to go any further.

Do you:

- A) Examine the obelisk?
- B) Give a heavy sign and tramp back to the crossroads in an attempt to find something more interesting?



- | | | | |
|-----|---|---|---|
| 1. | A | B | |
| 2. | A | B | |
| 3. | A | B | |
| 4. | A | B | |
| 5. | A | B | |
| 6. | A | B | |
| 7. | A | B | C |
| 8. | A | B | C |
| 9. | A | B | |
| 10. | A | B | |
| 11. | A | B | |

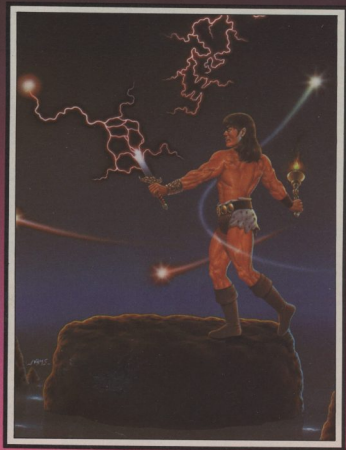
Name _____

Address _____

Age _____ Computer Owned _____

*Mark your choices on the decision sheet and send the map and completed coupon to Computer and Video Games, Pyracurse Competition, Priory Court, 30-32 Farringdon Lane, London EC1R 3AU.

MANDRAGORE



THE MAKING OF A LEGEND

France's award winning, role playing epic now available in English

Available for:

Amstrad (Disk and Cassette)

CBM 64 (Disk and Cassette)

Apple II (Disk)

MSX and **Spectrum**





GAME OF THE MONTH

This is C+VG's highest honour. It's granted to the game which, in our honest opinion, is the most playable, original and exciting game released during the month. We look for all the key points listed below — but also that extra added ingredient which makes the game stand head and shoulders above the best of the rest.



C+VG HIT!

This symbol is C+VG's way of telling you a game is the BUSINESS!

GRAPHICS

Is the game graphically great — or do the graphics grate? This mark puts you in the picture and lets you know if all things are sprite and beautiful.

SOUND

Is the sound loud and proud — or does it sound like you've got your head stuck in a bucket of mud?

VALUE

Should you beg, borrow or even steal the cash to get your hands on the game and be the envy of your friends? Or will it be better to wait until the game appears in the bargain bin? Find out here.

PLAYABILITY

Will you be dragged screaming from the joystick after 24 hours continuous play — or will the mere sight of the loading screen send you running to switch off the machine?

• If you're one of those people who likes percentages instead of marks out of ten, the solution to your problem is simple — just add a zero and a % sign to our marks. Easy, isn't it?

STARTS HERE

- **Machine:** Spectrum
- **Supplier:** Martech
- **Price:** £9.95

Prepare yourself to boldly go where no computer game has gone before. Martech's *Planets* take you on a trip through our galaxy and actually down to the surface of these heavenly bodies.

Created with the assistance of Heather Cooper, president of the British Astronomical Association, the game takes you on a trip across the galaxy in search of some alien capsules which contain clues to help you save the Earth from destruction.

The scenario goes like this. Life on planet Earth is coming to an end. A series of monumental natural disasters has thrown the Earth's climate into a deadly spiral — a second Ice Age has already begun.

A metal capsule plummets

through the atmosphere. It contains a map of the Solar System and shows the position of eight similar capsules, one for each of the Earth's planetary neighbours.

A radio signal is received from deep space. When decoded it is found to be a computer program. The program is loaded into a suitable microcomputer. A strange game unfolds which appears to obey certain complex rules.

You are on a routine mission within the solar system. For the past month the problems which beset Earth have intensified. As each day passes the news which reaches you worsens. Is life on Earth coming to an end?

News of the signal from deep space and the mysterious capsule are communicated to you. The capsule has landed in a mountainous region of Switzerland.

This is where you come in. The first task in this game is to land on Earth, decode the capsule's security device and get back to orbit around your home planet. Only then can you continue with the rest of the game.

Planets is really four games in one. There's the landing and take-off sequence, the planetary search sequence, the separate "weird" or alien puzzle game, and the decoding the capsule game.

Once you've landed you can send out your robot craft to retrieve the alien capsule.

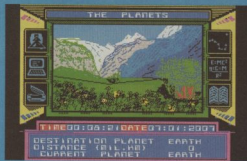
Once back in orbit you call up the interplanetary chart and decide which planet you wish to visit first.

Notes of tape counter positions will be useful. There's no explanation of this on the instruction sheet, so beware.

At your chosen destination it's back to the lunar lander routine — after you've taken a few potshots at oncoming asteroids.

The game is controlled by icons in an extremely effective fashion and features neat "windowing" techniques. It's not instantly addictive and won't appeal to arcade addicts currently into *Commando/Uridium* — BUT *Planets* does present a true challenge and will reward anyone who takes the time to REALLY play the game.

- **Graphics** 8
- **Sound** 6
- **Value** 9
- **Playability** 8



- **Machine:** Amstrad
- **Supplier:** Beyond
- **Price:** £9.95

Once again the Enigma team do battle against all odds, to rescue the Ambassador and capture General Zoff!

This time the mission is on the Amstrad, but it's just as daring. You have the power to command the Enigma team, by using icons, and must make the mission a success, at any cost!

The Enigma team is made up of the following characters: Zark Montor: Human, Commander of the Enigma team

Sylik: Insectoid, excellent fighter and second in command.

Sevrina Maris: Human, excellent marksman and locksmith.

Manto: Droid, he is priceless, lose him before the mission

ends and you cannot escape. Torik: Avian, excellent with explosives, makes a good scout.

Maul: Powerful combat droid, strongest member of the team.

Your mission is to rescue Ambassador Kryvik, capture General Zoff, and destroy the ship, Zoff V. You have a time limit of one hour and forty minutes.

The graphics on this game are pleasantly coloured, and the

icons are very clear, apart from the odd one or two perhaps. And while you play, the *Shadowfist* theme tune plays away in the background.

Overall it's a good game, one for strategy fans, as well as adventure freaks. I think it's a good buy.

- **Graphics** 8
- **Sound** 7
- **Value** 8
- **Playability** 8



- Machine: C64
- Supplier: Electric Dreams
- Price: £9.95

If we told you that the star of the latest Electric Dreams release was a tubby, stout swigging mermaid you wouldn't believe us, would you? Well it's true. Her name is Myrtle and she's soon be giving you a big ol' rub for her money. After sex appeal stakes!

Myrtle is after a man — Gormless Gordon the diver to be exact. The only problem is that Gordon isn't that keen on poor old Myrtle.

At the start of the game you see Gordon leap off the end of a pier in order to escape Myrtle's romantic intentions. He swims off, hides under a wreck and gets himself trapped. Stupidly, forgetting that he won't be able to breathe underwater forever, Gordon goes to sleep.

While Gormless is oblivious to the danger he's in, our heroine Myrtle is frantically trying to find a way to rescue him. And this is where you come in.

Myrtle has to wend her way through an undersea maze solving problems discovering useful objects — like dynamite

and the bottles of stout she needs to swig to keep her going.

She must also avoid the dangerous sea creatures like squids and lobsters which drain her energy on contact.

Myrtle must use dynamite to blast holes in the reef and to move the lamps which help her to swim in the dark undersea caverns. She must also keep an eye on Gordon's air-supply — represented in icon form at the top of the screen.

Mermaid is a pretty



straightforward maze-style arcade adventure. But it's lots of fun to play. The extremely colourful cartoon style graphics are fun to look at and well animated.

It's a long time since a "cute" game like this appeared on the scene — and a welcome change from all the terribly serious stuff around at the moment

- | | |
|---------------|---|
| ● Graphics | 9 |
| ● Sound | 9 |
| ● Value | 7 |
| ● Playability | 7 |

- Machine: CBM64
- Supplier: Mirrorsoft
- Price: £9.95

Biggles. Ah, the memories. Those were the days when all the world's troubles could be sorted out with a stiff upper lip, a steely glint in the eye and a swift upper cut.

Well now you can relive those days through Biggles — *The Untold Story*.

The plot of both film and game is as follows. Biggles and his chums are caught up in a race against time to find and destroy a new German secret weapon which could alter the whole outcome of the First World War. But things are complicated because Biggles gets caught up in strange time warp which means he gets transported back and forth between 1917 and 1986.

The Biggles game is divided up into two sections — the Timewarp and the Sound Weapon. You can play the second part of the game without completing the first but it will be difficult.

But first the Time Warp. This

is divided into three sections which you swap between as, in a flash of lightning, you move through time.

Biggles in the Air (1917): Here Biggles flies over enemy territory to locate and photograph the German Sound weapon. Enemy planes and artillery continually attack him.

Biggles on the Battlefield (1917): Armed with a gun and grenades, Biggles must battle past enemy positions to reach the weapon's test site. Biggles in London (1986): Here the action is set on the rooftops of London.

The second part of the game, The Sound weapon, finds Biggles and Jim aboard a helicopter flying over enemy trenches.

The one disappointment about Biggles the game — at least in the first part — are the graphics. They're a bit chunky and basic.

- | | |
|---------------|---|
| ● Graphics | 7 |
| ● Sound | 7 |
| ● Value | 8 |
| ● Playability | 8 |



- Machine: CBM64
- Supplier: Macmillan Software
- Price: £7.95

Og-a-gug-gug! Crunch, splat, scrunch etc, etc. Yes, folks, everyone's favourite sailor has found his way onto a computer game. Popeye was around last year on the Spectrum, and now Macmillan have converted it for the Commodore.

The storyline — such as it is — goes like this. Olive Oyl, Popeye's perky little girlfriend is running short on love. To avoid the horrendous heartbreak he'd have to suffer if he lost this beauty, Pops will have to prove his affection. What better way to do this than to give her some hearts. He must travel around the various screens, picking up these, and giving them to Olive.

Once the game has loaded, you are played a rather good version of the dead-end game which always accompanies the spinach-chewing hero. As it tootles away, the game begins, and a positive spectrum of colour fills the screen! The graphics are huge! Each character is jolly animated.

Sometimes the game is a little unfair; after you get "killed", a can of spinach will come across from the side of the screen, and revive you. Unfortunately, other characters will go about their business while you're on the deck. Often



you wake up just as they are passing, teasing you to be second for another few seconds.

Although the screen is presented side-on, it's possible to play in semi-3D. As well as moving left and right, you can move "into" the screen by ducking into doorways. It's quite clever.

The doorways play a more important part in the game than you may imagine. By collecting the keys which are dotted around, you can open certain doors, allowing access to more hearts.

Although the idea of the game is pretty simple, it's fun to play, and there are lots of different things to do, such as the witch and a fire-breathing dragon.

- | | |
|---------------|---|
| ● Graphics | 8 |
| ● Sound | 7 |
| ● Value | 7 |
| ● Playability | 7 |

● CONTINUES ON PAGE 24 ►

£8.95



THOR

THOR COMPUTER SOFTWARE LTD.

I.C.U.P.S.

I.C.U.P.S.

© 1986 THOR Computer Software



SALES 01-379 6755

01-240 9334

INTERNATIONAL 44-1-379 6755

SPECTRUM 48K-COMMODORE 64

- **Machine:** CBM 64
- **Supplier:** System 3
- **Price:** £6.50

Was it only last August System 3 was promising the launch of *International Karate* across all machines at once? Doesn't time drag when you're waiting for a game?

Well here, at last, is the Commodore 64 version. And very good it is as well. When the *Way of the Exploding Fist* came out it was considered brilliant. The truth is that *International Karate* is better than *Fist*. If only

System 3 had managed to get the game out at the same time it would have been fascinating to see them fight it out in the charts.

In looks and concept *International Karate* is very similar to *Fist*. The major difference being is in the backgrounds. In *IK* you progress through eight different international backdrops including New York, Rio and Sydney.

The combat is pretty much the same as *Fist*. Points are awarded for the various types

of punches and kicks.

But there are two extra sections in *IK*. You can boost your score with a bout of tile smashing with your fighter's head. For each tile smashed — there are 10 of them — 100 points are added to your score.

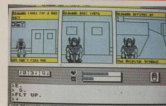
There is also another stage where you must dodge stars, spears and swords. Bonus points are again scored if you survive.

IK also has a nice touch of humour. If you leave the fighters facing each other for any length of time without any

action, they take it in turns to look at you and mouth encouragement at you — well, it could be encouragement. System 3 proudly announces its forthcoming games.

'Coming Soon' are *Twister*, *The Last Ninja* and *American GI*. It should be interesting to see what System 3 means by 'soon'.

- | | |
|---------------|----|
| ● Graphics | 9 |
| ● Sound | 9 |
| ● Value | 9 |
| ● Playability | 10 |



- **Machine:** Amstrad
- **Price:** £8.95
- **Supplier:** Melbourne House

After their success with *Mugsy*, Melbourne House are putting another comic-strip adventure onto the market, in the form of *Redhawk*.

In this offering, you play the role of ordinary Kevin Oliver, a typically simple person.

Things begin to veer from their typical course when Kevin wakes up in a hospital corridor, unable to remember why, or how he got there. Still, not being the sort to jump to conclusions, Kev starts plodding around the hospital

grounds, until... "KWAH"

flashes into his mind! What can this mean? Hang on just a tick... If we read "KWAH" backwards, we get "HAWK" Phewell Right. Armed with this piece of info, we can change into superhero Redhawk with the simplest utterance of said word.

Nothing particularly amazing as yet, eh, folks? However, if you — as I — tire of fighting the Good Fight eternally, the game allows you to become a super-villain, and indulge in a life of crime — much more fun! Stumbling across a hapless policeman, I proceeded to metamorphose before him (guaranteed to unseat even the most hardened cop!) and kick him around the street.

The screen is adequately presented, with the lower half allowing space for text and commands to be typed, and some variable indicators. These show some vital information, such as how strong Redhawk is feeling.

The response and speech is written in boxes in the cartoon strip itself. This is a little disturbing at first; it's easy to find yourself staring at the lower half of the screen when, in fact, the machine has already responded with a "<input>" confuses Kevin".

It's an enjoyable game, and presents scope for exploration.

- | | |
|---------------|---|
| ● Graphics | 6 |
| ● Sound | 5 |
| ● Playability | 7 |
| ● Value | 6 |

- **Machine:** Spectrum 48k
- **Supplier:** Ultimate Play The Game
- **Price:** 9.95

Well, Ultimate may play the game, but I suspect most Spectrum owners have become more than a little weary of this style of program.

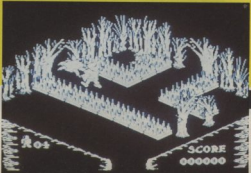
The storyline is peripheral and uninteresting. Yet again, you take the role of Sabraman. This time, though, he is dressed in a wizard's costume. The "idea" is to track down the Pentagon. Why Ultimate are unable to simply explain this looks like a mystery to baffle reviewers and gamers the world over. (Well, France and Germany in fact — Ultimate have kindly translated the instructions.)

The title page is rather average, and the initial screen, offering joystick and keyboard options is only marginally more inspiring. Into the game proper, then, and what do we find? A 3D layout, "cute" graphics and single colour rooms. So many surprises!

The bizarre lack of directional control (you just spin around and move forward) makes things even so difficult. Presumably, the idea is to allow the player to run, jump and fire without stretching out to the keyboard every few seconds. Whilst considering, I found it rather self-defeating: the effort expended to reach the keyboard would be considerably smaller than the frustration caused by trying to control the manic character.

Graphics are nothing special. They are high quality, though, and quite pleasing to look at. Occasionally, a fiend of some sort will descend from the sky and scuttle around your feet. Bearing in mind the amount of time Ultimate spend producing their games, and the money spent on packaging, I am disappointed by this offering. Steer well clear. Ultimate are going down.

- | | |
|---------------|---|
| ● Graphic | 8 |
| ● Sound | 5 |
| ● Value | 4 |
| ● Playability | 3 |



► CONTINUED FROM PAGE 22

• I N C E N T I V E •



THE GRAPHIC ADVENTURE CREATOR

The amazing, combined text and graphics adventure generator enables you to produce fast, compact adventure games with the minimum of effort and the maximum of creativity. Stunning graphics can be created quickly and easily with the powerful picture generator that has many features including:— dot, circle, elastic line, ellipse, fast fill, shading, step by step review, easy editing and the ability to merge pictures.

The comprehensive, intelligent command interpreter can handle complex sentences and multiple input commands. There is also an extensive text compression facility that allows you to produce far more detailed and numerous location descriptions. Plus a full function editor, automatic word formatting, a logical command interpreter and an abbreviated input acceptance facility.

So unleash the power of your imagination now with **The Graphic Adventure Creator**, for your Spectrum, Commodore 64, BBC B or Amstrad. Available from all leading retailers or direct from Incentive on 0734 591678.

INCENTIVE SOFTWARE LTD. 54 London Street, Reading RG1 4SQ.

Please rush me, **THE GRAPHIC ADVENTURE CREATOR**

- ☐ Commodore 64
☐ Spectrum ☐ BBC B ☐ Amstrad
☐ Cassette £22.95
☐ Disc £27.95 (All formats except Spectrum)

I enclose Cheque/PO for £
or please debit my Credit Card

No. _____

Name _____

Address _____

MADE IN UK



Who is the MULTIPLAYER

ARCADE INTERNATIONAL SOFTWARE

BEST DISCOUNTS IN BRITAIN

THIS MONTH'S NEW RELEASES	
SPECTRUM	
ARMY ON THE MARCH	£7.25
SAFARI CODE	£7.25
QUAZARION	£5.75
ROUNDER	£5.75
BATMAN	£5.75
PLANETS	£7.25
INDOOR SOCCER	£4.99
TOURNAMENT SNOKER	£4.99
CYBERJUL	£7.25
QUESTPROBE	£7.25
SPINDEZY	£7.25
QUEST	£7.25
VIDEO GAMES BINGO	£5.75
ROUND ONES	£5.75
ALLEN HIGHWAY	£5.75
SWIFT TV GOLFING	£5.75
RED HAWK	£5.75

MOVE	£5.75
PING PONG	£5.75
COMMANDO	£5.75
ELITE	£5.75
RAMBO	£5.75
RAVENS	£7.25
COMPUTER HITS 1	£7.25
VEHICLE HUNT	£5.75
QUA FIGHT	£7.25
BATTLE OF THE PLANETS	£7.25
COSMIC WARRIOR	£4.99
LEGEND AMAZON WOMEN	£5.75
8 MADOLGAMES BOXING	£5.75
WINTER GAMES	£5.75
HYPERSPORTS	£5.75
SABOTEUR	£5.75
30 GAMES	£7.25
ROCK 'N' WRESTLE	£5.75

THIS MONTH'S NEW RELEASES	
COMMODORE 64	
COMET GAME	£5.75
SPINDEZY	£7.25
INT. KARATE	£4.99
BONDS OF THE RINGS	£5.75
PIRATES	£5.75
CAVE ADVENTURE	£5.75
LEGEND AMAZON WOMEN	£7.25
PRICE OF MADGE	£7.25
EMPER	£7.25
KNIGHTS OF THE DESERT	£7.25
NASA HAWK	£7.25
WAR PLAY	£5.75
V	£5.75
SUPERBOWL	£7.25
MURPHY'S REVENGE	£5.75
URUGUAY	£5.75
MARTIN	£7.25
P.S.I. STRADING	£7.25
STARGLAZE	£5.75

ELITE	£10.50
LASER BASIC	£10.25
LASER COMPLEX	£10.25
2047 DOZERS	£7.25
24 CUP	£5.75
SOLD A MILLION	£7.25
ROMAN JACK	£7.25
PING PONG	£5.75
HARD BALL	£7.25
KUNG FU MASTER	£7.25
HYPERSPORTS	£5.75
VEHICLE HUNT	£5.75
TIME TUNNEL	£7.25
CIB PLUS 4	
EXISTENT	£1.99
RETURN ROCKMAN	£1.99
COMMANDO	£5.99
TOM THUMB	£5.99
8 GAMES SNOKER	£5.99
KUNG FU KID	£5.99
WINTER OLYMPICS	£5.99
M.S.K.	
HYPERSPORTS 2	£14.95
ILLIARDS	£14.95
NIGHTMARE	£14.95
AMSTRAD	
SAM FOX	£5.75
MOUSE	£5.75
ROMAN JACK	£5.75
ROCKY WRESTLE	£5.75
ROADWARR	£7.25
NEW OF THE TIGER	£7.25
TURBO SPIN	£5.75
SABOTEUR	£5.75
COMMANDO	£7.25
ROMAN JACK	£7.25
ALLEN HIGHWAY	£5.75

All prices shown above are also our shop prices. Give us a visit in East London.
Overseas Orders Cheque only sterling; Europe add £2 per tape, elsewhere add £4 per tape.

Send cheques/postal orders to:

ARCADE INTERNATIONAL SOFTWARE (C&VG)
202 SHOPPING HALL, MYTLE ROAD, EAST HAM, LONDON E6

Please do not send off for games not shown in our Ad.
They may not have been released.
We only advertise games that are in stock.



THE ATARI AND SMASH HIT

MERCENARY

Now Out On
Commodore
Plus4

NOVAGEN

CASSETTE £9.95

NOVAGEN SOFTWARE - SALES: 142 ALCESTER ROAD
BIRMINGHAM B13 8HS 021-4499516

Post Haste Software



The total postal software service!

Post Haste is part of GB Microland, the South of England's unique computer shop. Thousands of software titles. Lots of experience. The place that gave new meaning to the word 'friendly'. But not everyone lives nearby. So Post Haste Software was born. To Post Haste to your door. With top service. Here's how.

No "Club" to join, no "subscription" to pay. You come in our shop for free. Why pay to buy by mail?

Unique "double-your-money" voucher with the 40-page catalogue. Check the box in this advertisement!

Software for other computers? No problem. QL, Apple and IBM. Ask for lists. Post Haste has the lot!

Postage free in the UK. Europe? Add 95p. Elsewhere? Add £2.50. For the whole order, not each program.

Order by post or phone, day or night. Check the coupon for details. Then relax. It's fast!

Pay by cheque, bank draft, PO, Access, Visa, Mastercard, Eurocard. Post Haste is convenient!

ALREADY SEEN SOMETHING YOU WANT ON THIS PAGE? GO RIGHT AHEAD AND ORDER NOW!

Use the coupon or write on your own paper. Be sure to include all the details from the coupon. Cross cheques and POs for safety. Your software will be on its way by return. So will your catalogue. And your unique "double-your-money" voucher!

ADVENTURERS! SPECIAL EXTRA SECTION!

There are dozens of adventures in the Post Haste catalogue from virtually every major producer. Just about all the superb Infocom range is there and many others too! And Post Haste carries the Infocom Inviscubes, plus hint and guide books to other adventures too!

Answers to the problems that keep you awake at night? The catalogue lists them all!

THE POST HASTE CATALOGUE

The Post Haste catalogue is just 90p with a unique "Double Your Money" voucher tucked inside! Yes, the Post Haste catalogue contains a £1.80 voucher to use for your first order! How's that for value? Recreation, utility, strategy, adventure, arcade - they're all there! And so is your £1.80 "Double Your Money" voucher! Programs for five micros - Amstrad Altan, BBC, Commodore 64/128 and Spectrum. You've spoilt for choice with Post Haste! And your catalogue is the gateway to a huge program range from Post Haste! Over 4,000 titles spanning 10 major micros! Where else is there such a choice?

BIGGER RANGE!

The Post Haste range now includes programs for the Commodore C16 and the Atari ST. Send for lists!

POST HASTE: WHAT THEY SAY!

It's only a few months since Post Haste was born. Now, thousands of customer orders later, we've a compliment collection to make us proud! Here are just a few.....

"This time I'm not just surprised but completely amazed at the speed of your response - expect plenty of orders from me!" - K.B., Haslingfield, Cambridgeshire

"Thanks for a fast service - please keep it up!" - F.R., Betsford, Norway.

"I'm amazed at the speed you mail! I received the disk just 4 days after I sent off to you and that includes a Sunday! That's what I call service!" - R.H., Sutton Coldfield, West Midlands

"Congratulations on your excellent service! For BFO addresses, you're the best way of obtaining up-to-date software. In my case, you're the only way! Keep up the good work!" - C.B., BFO 36.

"Many thanks for a superb service!" - J.G., Andover, Hampshire.

"The last order I placed with you was received just over a week from the date I mailed it - two weeks later than any other firm I've dealt with!" - R.E., Kleppe, Norway.

"I've just received your catalogue and I'm amazed at the quality!" - P.D., Torpoint, Cornwall.

"The programs I ordered arrived in 8 days. Considering this included Easter and an air strike in Australia, that's fantastic!" - A.K., Morphett Vale, South Australia.

Our thanks to everyone who's written from everywhere in the UK and all over the world. We appreciate it and we'll go right on working poste haste at Post Haste!

PAPERBOY (Elite)

The top arcade game on your own computer screen! The eagerly awaited "official" version!

Spectrum (C) £7.95 BBC/Electron (C) £9.95
Amstrad (C) £8.95 BBC (D) £14.95
Amstrad (D) £14.95 Comm C16/Plus 4 (C) £7.95
Comm 64/128 (C) £9.95 Comm 64/128 (D) £14.95

PERRY MASON (Telarium)

A tremendous graphic adventure. The Case Of The Mandarin Murderer and you're the famous detective, Perry Mason. Zzap-64 says "definitely recommended".

Comm 64/128 (D) £19.95

MOVIEMAKER (Ariolasoft)

A stunning program! Lets you quickly and easily create and save long and hugely impressive animated action sequences using your own creative talents.

Comm 64/128 (D) £16.95 Atari (D) £16.95

GHOSTS'N'GOBLINS (Elite)

Another officially licensed arcade smash hit from the team that produced "Commando".

Spectrum (C) £7.95 BBC/Electron (C) £9.95
Amstrad (C) £8.95 BBC (D) £14.95
Amstrad (D) £14.95 Comm C16/Plus 4 (C) £7.95
Comm 64/128 (C) £9.95 Comm 64/128 (D) £14.95

GAMEMAKER (Activision)

One of the most astonishing programs we've seen! Create your own games and make them as complicated as you like. "An excellent package" - Zzap 64.

Comm 64/128 (C) £14.95 Comm 64/128 (D) £19.95

GET DEXTER (PSS)

C&VG Game Of The Month and highly praised by many other reviewers. Your Amstrad will dazzle you with this terrific arcade adventure!

Amstrad (C) £7.95 Amstrad (D) £13.95

BATMAN (Ocean)

Rated at 10 out of 10 for value and 10 out of 10 for playability by C&VG. "A game that's destined to become an all-time classic".

Spectrum (C) £7.95 Amstrad (C) £8.95
Other computer versions imminent.

THE POST HASTE SERVICE

We can supply any program you've seen advertised. If it's released, you'll usually get it by return. If it's not, you'll get it faster when it does come out. Simply order it and sit back. That's Post Haste service!

Phone Orders (24 hrs) (0705) 269333

TO GET YOUR CATALOGUE WITH THE "DOUBLE-YOUR-MONEY" VOUCHER, OR TO ORDER SOFTWARE, USE THIS COUPON!

I send your catalogue. I've enclosed 90p. Don't forget my £1.80 "Double Your Money" voucher for me to use with my first order!

I send your catalogue and I want to order software too. The details are below. I've added 90p for the catalogue to the value of my order so don't forget my £1.80 "Double Your Money" voucher!

My name is:

My address is:

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

Catalogue with £1.80 voucher Add £0.90
Postage is totally free in the UK Add £0.00
Europe postage for whole order Add £0.95
Airmail elsewhere for whole order Add £2.50

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED £

PAYING BY CHEQUE OR POSTAL ORDER?

Please make it payable to Post Haste Software and cross it for safety's sake! Don't send cash! CHARGING IT TO YOUR VISA, ACCESS, MASTERCARD, EUROCARD? May we have your card number, expiry date and signature?

Expiry date: Signature:

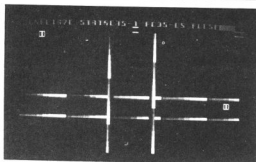
Now mail your order to:

POST HASTE SOFTWARE
GB MICROLAND, 7 QUEENS PARADE
LONDON ROAD, WATERLOOVILLE
HAMPSHIRE PO7 7EB, UNITED KINGDOM
Or phone (24 hours) 0705 269333

- **Machine:** Commodore 16/ Plus 4
- **Supplier:** Ariolasoft
- **Price:** £6.95

Oh, dear. Another game with piles of instructions and storyline to wade through before you can actually get anywhere! Well, no, that's not strictly true. You can try and play the game without browsing at the paperwork first, though it's not the most sensible way to go about things.

Lord only knows what the story is all about. For some reason, some all-powerful being has become terribly miffed with life, and has decided to take it out on any poor soul he finds wandering around. Of course, you are one such soul. Casting this rather inadequate literature aside, I loaded the game and was



presented with a rather swish title page — all swirling characters and graphics and suchlike.

On with the game, and you find yourself in the middle of a desperately confusing screen surrounded on four sides by colourful walls, and kept

company by various other items which appear and vanish from time to time. Now the game begins, and all enthusiasm drains from the reviewer's mind. The graphics appear flickery, and gameplay seems unimpressive, and everything is thoroughly

confusing.

After prolonged play, though, things start to pick up. You learn that you can control the walls (which encroach from the edge of the screen inwards) by pushing and dragging them with your "ship", and how to collect the numerous pods which are dotted around the screen.

As you collect the required number (which increases for each screen you reach) you will be transported to another zone, with a different wall layout. This makes the program much more interesting, and gives it lasting appeal. The graphics are bright and colourful — and, despite initial reservations, I would recommend the game to most people.

- **Graphics**
- **Sound**
- **Value**
- **Playability**

6
3
7
8

- **Machine:** C64
- **Supplier:** Ariolasoft/Electronic Arts
- **Price:** £9.95 (tape) £14.95 (disc)

If you're one of those people who have been waiting for an all action American Football simulation with proper animated players and fast scrolling action rather than a straight strategy game like *Superbowl* then take a look at *Touchdown Football*.

At first glance the graphics aren't really up to much. The teams are represented by one colour, chunky graphics, but are quite well animated. The action is joystick controlled — except

from the initial options screen which gives you the usual one player/two player/computer choices.

Playing the computer is a tough option. It might be an idea to start by playing a friend so you can learn the ropes without getting thrashed. Defence and Offence plays are controlled via menu windows.

There's an extensive choice of moves to make for the offensive team — not quite so many for the defence. Make a wrong choice and

you can go back and change things if you wish.

Once you've set up your play and committed yourself to play action you can control the players *Match Day* fashion. You can pass or run with the ball.

Normal NFL rules apply to the game —

which basically means you get four chances to move the ball 10 yards up the field at a time with the object of scoring a touchdown.

The game is very playable despite the graphics and sound which let it down badly. And the price is hefty for a product of this quality. EA can do better.

- **Graphics**
- **Sound**
- **Value**
- **Playability**

5
5
5
7

TOUCHDOWN FOOTBALL

- **Machine:** Amstrad
- **Supplier:** Martech
- **Price:** £8.95

Now you can Play With Page 3 who have to be championed by model Samantha Fox (Shame) Sam will play Strip Poker with you, and if you can guess what happens! But Sam is no pushover and you

will need a bit of skill to beat her, or so Martech say. When you start playing with Sam, she looks more like Max Headroom than the sparkling Page 3 beauty. She wears a hat, glasses, dark glasses, as well as all the other essentials.

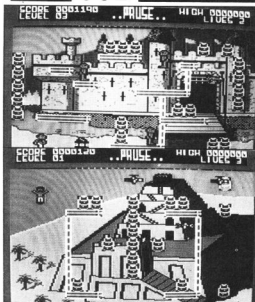
Anyway, when you play poker you can win with one of the following hands: Nothing! Yes if you both have nothing then the one with the highest cards win. A pair, two pairs, three, straight, flush, and four, a straight flush and lastly, the best hand you can get, a Royal Straight Flush.

SAMANTHA FOX
STRIP POKER

- **Graphics**
- **Sound**
- **Value**
- **Playability**

9
7
8
8

► CONTINUED FROM PAGE 28



BOMBO 5th AXIS

- Machine: C64/128
- Supplier: Rino
- Price: £7.95

Rino Software has released a new game entitled *Bombo*. And it's really good.

Although at first glance you will think that it's *Bombjack*, when you get into the game you'll find it is much more fun. One of the amazing things about this game is the superb little tunes which play through the screens.

As I said earlier, game play is like *Bombjack*, where you have to collect things by jumping on them and you can fly between the platforms.

The thing which bothers me is that *Elite*, may kick up a fuss about *Bombo* and if they win, it may be taken off the market. This worries me because I may not be able to buy it, and I think it's a better buy than *Bombjack*.

- Graphics 8
- Sound 9
- Value 9
- Playability 8

- Machine: Amstrad
- Price: 9.95/14.95 (tape/disc)
- Supplier: Activation

The *5th Axis* is the first in a range of programs which will be appearing under the Activation label from France. A company called Loriciels write the programs, and Activation produce them. If the first offering is anything to go by, it should be a very productive partnership.

The setting is the future; 15th September 2410 to be precise. For some reason, you're the only person who can save the world from disaster. The culprit for this sticky situation is Professor Chronos. He was beaver away on his new invention, a time machine, when suddenly "Kerzumph!" it disintegrated. Now, screwing around with time is far from sensible. Bits of time machine were scattered through time, and artifacts from other time zones were also moved around. Your mission is to traverse the galaxy, returning the objects to their correct time.

Once the game has loaded you can set up the various attributes of your character. Force, Agility, Life and Credit can all be altered.

The first thing that you'll notice when you start playing (apart, perhaps, from the "catchy" tune) is the way the graphics operate. Your character remains in the middle of the screen, with the background scrolling around him. The layout of the early stages of the game looks a little like a standard "run and jump" game.

Almost as soon as you appear on the screen, you'll be surrounded by a horde of ghostly looking creatures, which will proceed to beat the living daylight out of you without so much as an "excuse me!"

The combat is very well staged. You can perform flying kicks and punches; as well as a stand-up fight.

Game play is slick and fast. You can get the hang of the program quite quickly, and it's possible to save the game after a particularly successful mission.

- Graphics 7
- Sound 7
- Playability 8
- Value 7

BOUNTY BOB STRIKES BACK!

- Machine: BBC
- Supplier: US Gold
- Price: £9.95 tape, £14.95 disk

If you took a fancy to *Bounty Bob* in *Miner 2049er*, now's your chance to renew the acquaintance. *Bounty Bob* is back, with a vengeance.

All he has to do is claim the mine and foil the evil plans of Yukon Yohan. He does this by scurrying around each of the 20 levels of the mine, filling in sections of the framework as he does so. Once all the sections of framework are filled in, he can move on to the next cavern.

Needless to say, there are complications. The mine is full of mutants out to stop him, and he must eat various snacks on the way to get the strength to deal with them. There are, however, a number of ingenious pieces of equipment scattered about which help *Bob* in his frenzied progress — lifts, a grain elevator, suction tubes, even a utility hoist.

It's familiar arcade action, but the graphics are only average and it's a bit pricey for what it is.

- Graphics 7
- Sound 7
- Value 6
- Playability 7

THING ON A SPRING

- Machine: Amstrad
- Supplier: Gremlin Graphics
- Price: £8.95

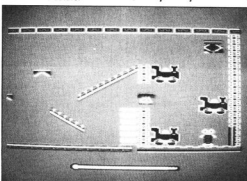
Bounce into action on the Amstrad with *Thing on a Spring*. It's getting on for nearly a year since the Spectrum version of Gremlin's game came out and time certain hasn't dulled the fun.

The thing has to infiltrate an evil goblin's factory, collect nine pieces of a jigsaw which will give him a clue as to how to kill this wicked creature.

Traps must be avoided and puzzles overcome by the cute and somersaulting *Thing* on a Spring.

If you like a platform and ladders games then this superior example of the breed will suit you down to the ground. Excellent graphics and good sound combined to make this an immensely playable game.

- Graphics 7
- Sound 7
- Value 8
- Playability 9



JB SOFTWARE SERVICE

Hardware		13.00
Competition Pro	Quickshot II	6.25
Konix Speeding		9.50

ATARI	Cass	Disk	CRM 64	Cass	Disk
The Edition	7.30	11.00	The Edition	7.30	—
Soy Vs Soy	7.30	11.00	Rockers Rottin Dash	7.30	—
Soy Vs Soy II	7.30	11.00	Bomb Jack	7.30	—
Rescue on Fractalus	7.30	11.00	Farelight	7.30	—
Mercenary	7.30	9.50	Superman	7.30	—
Ball Blazer	7.30	11.00	Tris	11.00	13.50
Great American Road Race	7.30	11.00	They Sold a Million II	6.40	—
Seven Cities of Gold	7.30	11.00	Starquake	7.30	—
Hacker	7.30	11.00	Rescue	7.30	—
Steve Davis Snooker	7.30	9.50	They Sold a Million	7.30	—
Red Moon	5.00	—	Quake Minis I	7.30	—
Smash Hit 4	—	16.00	Two Jims	7.00	—
Alternative Reality	3.50	—	Impossible Mission	7.00	—
Chemists	11.00	14.50	The Never Ending Story	7.00	—
Kennedy Approach	7.30	11.00	Mercenary	7.30	9.50
Zone K	7.30	11.00	Superbow	7.30	—
Evil Knight	6.50	9.50	Zoids	6.40	—
Boulderdash II	7.30	11.00	Knights Games	6.40	—
Fighter Pilot	—	9.75	No Game II	6.40	—
Tail of the Lizard	7.30	11.00	The Transformers	6.40	—
Academy Classics	7.30	11.00	The Ace of Vespis	7.30	—
Up'n Down	7.30	—	Boulder	7.30	9.50
King of the Ring	7.30	—	Unlithum	6.40	—
Tigers in the Snow	—	11.00	Dragon Skate	7.30	—

AMSTRAD
Get Devil
7.30 —
Lord of the Rings
7.30 —
Lords of Midnight
5.75 —
Spartan 40
7.30 —
Don Darach
7.30 9.50
Soy Vs Soy
7.30 —
Taxi Citi
7.30 —
Twisted World
7.30 —
Exploding Fund
7.30 —
Spendixy
7.30 —
Satanator
6.40 10.50
Frank Brontos Bowling
6.40 —

MSX
Naginata
7.30 —
Hyper Rally
11.80 —
Hyper Sports 3
11.80 —
Solent
12.30 —
Acer
7.50 —
Boulderdash
5.95 —
Sorcery
7.90 —
Gunsight
7.50 —

Please state name, address, title and micro clearly with order.
Overseas add £1 per item. Cheques/P.O.s payable to:
J.B.B. SOFTWARE SERVICES
14 Lorraine Crescent (overseas)
Dartington Co. Durham DL1 5FT

FREEPOST (no stamp UK)
Dartington
Co. Durham DL1 5KE
Tel: (0325) 288102

MAIL-SOFT

* COMMODORE 64 *	* SPECTRUM **	*** AMSTRAD ***	
YE AR KLING FU	6.50	THING ON STRING	6.75
KUNG FU MASTER	7.25	CRITICAL MASS	6.50
RENNI JACK	7.25	SABATOUR	7.25
ELITE	11.25	QUAZAR	6.50
WORLD CUP	7.25	ELITE-CASS	11.00
WORLD CUP II	7.25	SPIN DOZZY	7.25
WORLD CUP III	7.25	WORLD CUP CARNIVAL	7.25
WORLD CUP IV	7.25	WORLD CUP CARNIVAL	7.25
WORLD CUP V	7.25	WORLD CUP CARNIVAL	7.25
WORLD CUP VI	7.25	WORLD CUP CARNIVAL	7.25
WORLD CUP VII	7.25	WORLD CUP CARNIVAL	7.25
WORLD CUP VIII	7.25	WORLD CUP CARNIVAL	7.25
WORLD CUP IX	7.25	WORLD CUP CARNIVAL	7.25
WORLD CUP X	7.25	WORLD CUP CARNIVAL	7.25
WORLD CUP XI	7.25	WORLD CUP CARNIVAL	7.25
WORLD CUP XII	7.25	WORLD CUP CARNIVAL	7.25
WORLD CUP XIII	7.25	WORLD CUP CARNIVAL	7.25
WORLD CUP XIV	7.25	WORLD CUP CARNIVAL	7.25
WORLD CUP XV	7.25	WORLD CUP CARNIVAL	7.25
WORLD CUP XVI	7.25	WORLD CUP CARNIVAL	7.25
WORLD CUP XVII	7.25	WORLD CUP CARNIVAL	7.25
WORLD CUP XVIII	7.25	WORLD CUP CARNIVAL	7.25
WORLD CUP XIX	7.25	WORLD CUP CARNIVAL	7.25
WORLD CUP XX	7.25	WORLD CUP CARNIVAL	7.25
WORLD CUP XXI	7.25	WORLD CUP CARNIVAL	7.25
WORLD CUP XXII	7.25	WORLD CUP CARNIVAL	7.25
WORLD CUP XXIII	7.25	WORLD CUP CARNIVAL	7.25
WORLD CUP XXIV	7.25	WORLD CUP CARNIVAL	7.25
WORLD CUP XXV	7.25	WORLD CUP CARNIVAL	7.25
WORLD CUP XXVI	7.25	WORLD CUP CARNIVAL	7.25
WORLD CUP XXVII	7.25	WORLD CUP CARNIVAL	7.25
WORLD CUP XXVIII	7.25	WORLD CUP CARNIVAL	7.25
WORLD CUP XXIX	7.25	WORLD CUP CARNIVAL	7.25
WORLD CUP XXX	7.25	WORLD CUP CARNIVAL	7.25

Post & Packing included in UK, Europe add £1 per tape. CHQ/P.O. To: Mail-Soft, P.O. Box 589 London N15 6AJ. Access and Visa accepted.

THE TOP PEOPLES CHOICE

125
The
Explosive Joystick from Cheetah

- Compatible with ZX Spectrum, Commodore 64, V20, Amstrad, Atari, MSX, etc.
- Four extremely sensitive fire buttons.
- Uniquely styled hand grip.
- Auto fire switch.
- 12 months warranty.

ONLY £8.95

Street Price of £9.75

Cheetah
FREE TWO MARKETING LTD
11 MILLINGTON GLENCE PARK
C/O P. S. VICK & SONS (UK) LTD, LONDON
TEL: (0207) 44433 (24 hour telephone)

CUT PRICE SOFTWARE

SPECTRUM	BUY	OUR PRICE	COMMODORE	BUY	OUR PRICE	AMSTRAD	BUY	OUR PRICE
Quadrangle	9.95	6.25	Empire	9.95	7.25	Movie	6.95	5.95
Batman	7.95	5.50	Po & Tracing Co.	9.95	7.25	Rock & Wreath	6.95	5.95
World Cup Carnival	9.95	7.95	Time Tracer	9.95	7.25	Rock & Wreath	6.95	5.95
Elite	14.95	11.80	Bomb Jack	9.95	7.25	Mercenary	9.95	7.25
Runter	7.95	5.95	Game Master (C)	19.95	14.95	Crash	9.95	7.25
Shadowline 2	9.95	7.45	Sold a Million 2	9.95	7.45	Sorcery (C)	11.95	10.25
Paperboy	7.95	5.95	Elite	14.95	11.80	Spin Dozy	9.95	7.25
The Planet	9.95	7.95	World Cup Carnival	19.95	14.95	Transact	29.95	19.95
Equinox	9.95	7.25	Paperboy	9.95	7.95	Transact	29.95	19.95
Rock & Wreath	6.95	5.95	Heavy on Magic	7.95	5.95	Sold a Million 2	9.95	7.45
Spin Dozy	9.95	7.95	Price of Magic	9.95	7.95	Spin Dozy	9.95	7.25
Price of Magic	9.95	7.95	Revenge	9.95	7.95	Spin Dozy	9.95	7.25
Superbow	9.95	7.95	Silver Service	9.95	7.95	Spin Dozy	9.95	7.25
Phig Phig	7.95	5.40	Rock & Wreath	9.95	7.25	Paperboy	9.95	7.95
Turbo Fight	8.95	6.80	Star Service (C)	11.95	10.25	Wreath	9.95	7.25
Bomb Jack	7.95	5.50	Superbow	9.95	7.95	Taxi Citi (C)	14.95	11.80
Heavy on Magic	9.95	7.95	Po Tracing Co.	14.95	11.80	Wreath	9.95	7.25
Starman	7.95	5.95	Unlithum	9.95	6.25	Elite	14.95	11.80
Swallow Fire	9.95	7.95	Freeze Frame	9.95	7.25	Wreath	9.95	7.25
Way of the Tiger	9.95	7.25	Way of the Tiger	9.95	7.25	Wreath	9.95	7.25
Bounces	9.95	7.95	Spin Dozy	9.95	6.25	Heavy on Magic	9.95	7.95

Amstrad Blank Disks £9.95 per 10. This is just an indication of our stock.
Please ring for more details. Mail order prices only.

F&P included. Overseas orders please add 75p per tape. Make cheques payable to: C.P.S. VICK & SONS (UK) LTD, LONDON. Access and Visa accepted.

CUT PRICE SOFTWARE Unit 6, Start House, Riverway, Harlow, Essex CM20 2DU
Tel: (0278) 24433 (24 hour telephone)

THE LATEST ABC FIGURE

98,258

C+VG

IS THE BIGGEST

SELLING MAGAZINE IN

THIS INDUSTRY

MANY THANKS TO ALL

OUR READERS

In the past few weeks there has been a flood of game compilation tapes onto the market. Are they the bargain they seem? C+VG investigates and asks are the V.F.M. — that's

The automatic response to getting anything up to 30 games for a few quid is that they're a great bargain. But are they the big deal they at first appear? Or is it case of software houses desperate attempt to make money on games that weren't successful first time round?

First up is a gigantic offering from Argus — 30 games on two cassettes. Titles on the Spectrum version include *Jet Set Jetties*, *30 Tunnel*, *Carpet Capers*, *Meteor Storm* and *Blood and Guts*. The list seems endless.

Perhaps the best known of the bunch is Jeff Minter's *Gridrunner*, a game with plenty of zip and a lot of zap.

And Commodore owners aren't left out. Argus has also put together another package of 30 Games for them. Titles include many of those in the Spectrum collection plus others such as the Quicksilver's *Schizophrenia*, a fiendishly difficult game to play.

Both packages offer good value. It could be months before you finish all these games.

Off the Hook, the charity package put together by Electric Dreams, offers even better value for money — ten games for £6.99. And at the same time you can ease your conscience about the many hours spent hunched over your computer by the fact that all money raised by *Off the Hook* goes to the Prince's Trust for the rehabilitation of drug addicts.

Goodies on the Spectrum include *Beyond the Paytron*, *Max* from US gold, and *Melbourne House's Muggsy*. It also includes *Elite's Fall Guy* but we prefer not to talk about that.

Beau-Jolly also has its *Computer Hits Volume 2* out on the Commodore, Spectrum, Amstrad, BBC B and Electron, price £9.95.

We took a look at the BBC B collection and Amstrad. The BBC tape includes

Micropower's Frenzy and *Jet Power Jack and Kissin' Cousins* from English Software.

Perhaps the best is *Superior's Starstriker*, a version of the arcade classic *Moon Cresta*.

Hewson's *Technician Ted* and *Micromega's Codename Mat* are the stars of the Amstrad collection, ably supported by *Superpipeline 2*, *Tasked and Moon Buggy*, *Anirog*.

Remember *Creative Sparks*? They've been a little quiet recently but now they've bought out two compilations of the Sparklers range of budget games, price £2.95.

The Spectrum "TRIO" features: *Desert Burner*, *Quackshot* and *St Crippens*.

In *Desert Burner*, a fast scrolling arcade game, the lader of a group of freedom fighters travels through the night on the *Desert Burner*, a powerful gun-carrying 200 mph road bike. His aim is to deliver top secret plans to the other resistance members without getting caught by his enemies.

You need to be a "Quackshot" to survive in the next of the three games, where a revolution of clockwork ducks gets out of hand.

St Crippens is the world's worst hospital. Escape is only possible if you can beg, steal or borrow new clothes to fool the



guards who try to stop you leaving. First you must find your way through the dozens of wards.

The Commodore 64 "TRIO" is equally testing with a choice of *Chopper*, *Kayak* or *Merlin*.

The first game, "Chopper" concerns a mighty helicopter gunship which has set out to annihilate the enemy base. It needs a combination of both courage and skill to reach it as both man and machine are taxed to the limit.

Kayak is a canoe simulation which requires first class presence of mind to negotiate the course ahead.

In the third game, *Merlin* needs assistance in conquering the powers of evil that he encounters in this original arcade game.

Anybody still got a VIC 20? Well grab £6.50 and splash out on Liamssoft's *Viva Vic* collection. Included are *Abductor*, *Gridrunner*, *Traxx*, *Andes Attack*, *Laserzone*, *Matrix*, *Megagalactic Llamas*, *Battle at the Edge of Time* and *Heligate*.

Fancy a bit of arcade fun for £4.50? Then *Astro Cad* on the Spectrum from DOS Software could be for you. The six games on offer are *Simeon*, *Caverns*, *D'Oor*, *Bomber*, *Zombier*, *Luna Rover* and *Alien*.

The Complete BBC from Audiogenic is also worth

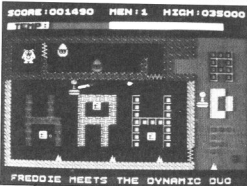
checking out. Titles include *The Chrysalis*, arcade action in the cabbage patch, *Drain Mania*, a fairly standard platform game, and *The Genesis Project*, deep space action. Perhaps the most interesting game is *Flip*.

Although it's not much fun to look at, it's good fun to play. It's a two player graphical strategy game in which hidden words must be uncovered.

And last, but by no means least, *Gremlin Graphics* has come up with probably the two best quality compilations of all *4 Zap!* *Sizzlers* and *Crash Smashes*. As you may have guessed all the games have received high praise in a rival magazine.

The Commodore 64 games are *Who Dares Wins II* (Ailgait), *Wizard's Lair* (Bubble Bus), *Drop Zone* (US Gold) and *Thing on a Spring* (Gremlin). The Spectrum games are *Spy Hunter* (US Gold), *Night Gunner* (Digital Integration), *Dun Darach* (Gargoyles) and *Alien 8* (Ultimate).

Good fun, and excellent value at £9.95. All are well worth buying.



C+VG VALUE FOR MONEY TABLE

30 Games, Argus
Off the Hook, Electric Dreams
Computer Hits Vol 2, Beau-Jolly
Trio, Creative Sparks
Viva Vic, Liamssoft
Astro Cad, DOS
The Complete BBC, Audiogenic
4 Zap! Sizzlers, Gremlin Graphics
4 Crash Smashes, Gremlin Graphics

£9.95
£8.99
£9.95
£2.95
£4.50
£4.50
£19.95
£9.95
£9.95

FACULTY ENTERPRISES LTD.

AMSTRAD	Our RRP Price	COMM 64	Our RRP Price	SPECTRUM	Our RRP Price
They Sold a Million	9.95 7.95	They Sold a Million	9.95 7.95	They Sold a Million	9.95 7.95
Val 2	9.95 6.75	Val 2	9.95 6.75	World Cup Football	9.95 6.75
Today the 12th	9.95 6.75	Today the 12th	9.95 6.75	Today the 12th	9.95 6.75
Ship of Doom	9.95 6.75	Ship of Doom	9.95 6.75	Ship of Doom	9.95 6.75
Planet of Doom	9.95 6.75	Planet of Doom	9.95 6.75	Planet of Doom	9.95 6.75
Master Hawk	9.95 6.75	Master Hawk	9.95 6.75	Master Hawk	9.95 6.75
10 Invaders	9.95 6.75	10 Invaders	9.95 6.75	10 Invaders	9.95 6.75
Harver Attack	9.95 6.75	Harver Attack	9.95 6.75	Harver Attack	9.95 6.75
A View to a Kill	9.95 6.75	A View to a Kill	9.95 6.75	A View to a Kill	9.95 6.75

P + P inc. Please make cheques + PO's payable to:
FACULTY ENTERPRISES LTD.

29 Rutland Court, Ponders Court,
Ponders End, Enfield, Middx. EN3 4BJ

Telephone: 01-805 8054

SAE for list



EMPIRE SOFTWARE

SPECTRUM	Our RRP Price	AMSTRAD	Our RRP Price	COMMODORE	Our RRP Price
Supremacy	9.95 1.95	Supremacy	9.95 1.95	Supremacy	9.95 1.95
Paper Box	9.95 1.95	Paper Box	9.95 1.95	Paper Box	9.95 1.95
Binary Chess	9.95 1.95	Binary Chess	9.95 1.95	Binary Chess	9.95 1.95
The Cat	9.95 1.95	The Cat	9.95 1.95	The Cat	9.95 1.95
Three Peaks in Paradise	9.95 1.95	Three Peaks in Paradise	9.95 1.95	Three Peaks in Paradise	9.95 1.95
Solitaire	9.95 1.95	Solitaire	9.95 1.95	Solitaire	9.95 1.95
Commando	9.95 1.95	Commando	9.95 1.95	Commando	9.95 1.95
Rocky's Wreath	9.95 1.95	Rocky's Wreath	9.95 1.95	Rocky's Wreath	9.95 1.95
Overboard	9.95 1.95	Overboard	9.95 1.95	Overboard	9.95 1.95
Star Trek	9.95 1.95	Star Trek	9.95 1.95	Star Trek	9.95 1.95
Star Trek II	9.95 1.95	Star Trek II	9.95 1.95	Star Trek II	9.95 1.95
Star Trek III	9.95 1.95	Star Trek III	9.95 1.95	Star Trek III	9.95 1.95
Star Trek IV	9.95 1.95	Star Trek IV	9.95 1.95	Star Trek IV	9.95 1.95
Star Trek V	9.95 1.95	Star Trek V	9.95 1.95	Star Trek V	9.95 1.95
Star Trek VI	9.95 1.95	Star Trek VI	9.95 1.95	Star Trek VI	9.95 1.95
Star Trek VII	9.95 1.95	Star Trek VII	9.95 1.95	Star Trek VII	9.95 1.95
Star Trek VIII	9.95 1.95	Star Trek VIII	9.95 1.95	Star Trek VIII	9.95 1.95
Star Trek IX	9.95 1.95	Star Trek IX	9.95 1.95	Star Trek IX	9.95 1.95
Star Trek X	9.95 1.95	Star Trek X	9.95 1.95	Star Trek X	9.95 1.95
Star Trek XI	9.95 1.95	Star Trek XI	9.95 1.95	Star Trek XI	9.95 1.95
Star Trek XII	9.95 1.95	Star Trek XII	9.95 1.95	Star Trek XII	9.95 1.95
Star Trek XIII	9.95 1.95	Star Trek XIII	9.95 1.95	Star Trek XIII	9.95 1.95
Star Trek XIV	9.95 1.95	Star Trek XIV	9.95 1.95	Star Trek XIV	9.95 1.95
Star Trek XV	9.95 1.95	Star Trek XV	9.95 1.95	Star Trek XV	9.95 1.95
Star Trek XVI	9.95 1.95	Star Trek XVI	9.95 1.95	Star Trek XVI	9.95 1.95
Star Trek XVII	9.95 1.95	Star Trek XVII	9.95 1.95	Star Trek XVII	9.95 1.95
Star Trek XVIII	9.95 1.95	Star Trek XVIII	9.95 1.95	Star Trek XVIII	9.95 1.95
Star Trek XIX	9.95 1.95	Star Trek XIX	9.95 1.95	Star Trek XIX	9.95 1.95
Star Trek XX	9.95 1.95	Star Trek XX	9.95 1.95	Star Trek XX	9.95 1.95

Please send SAE for a catalogue of games for Spectrum, Commodore and MSX and all the other computers. Please make cheques or postal order's payable to Empire Software.

118A Palmers Road, New Southgate, London N11 1SL

Telephone enquiries welcome.

Phone: 01-361 1913

SUPA SOFT DISCOUNT SOFTWARE

Spectrum	Our RRP Price	Commodore	Our RRP Price	Amstrad	Our RRP Price
Bank Jack	9.95 1.95	Bank Jack	9.95 1.95	Bank Jack	9.95 1.95
They Sold a Million	9.95 1.95	They Sold a Million	9.95 1.95	They Sold a Million	9.95 1.95
Val 2	9.95 1.95	Val 2	9.95 1.95	Val 2	9.95 1.95
Today the 12th	9.95 1.95	Today the 12th	9.95 1.95	Today the 12th	9.95 1.95
Ship of Doom	9.95 1.95	Ship of Doom	9.95 1.95	Ship of Doom	9.95 1.95
Planet of Doom	9.95 1.95	Planet of Doom	9.95 1.95	Planet of Doom	9.95 1.95
Master Hawk	9.95 1.95	Master Hawk	9.95 1.95	Master Hawk	9.95 1.95
10 Invaders	9.95 1.95	10 Invaders	9.95 1.95	10 Invaders	9.95 1.95
Harver Attack	9.95 1.95	Harver Attack	9.95 1.95	Harver Attack	9.95 1.95
A View to a Kill	9.95 1.95	A View to a Kill	9.95 1.95	A View to a Kill	9.95 1.95
Star Trek	9.95 1.95	Star Trek	9.95 1.95	Star Trek	9.95 1.95
Star Trek II	9.95 1.95	Star Trek II	9.95 1.95	Star Trek II	9.95 1.95
Star Trek III	9.95 1.95	Star Trek III	9.95 1.95	Star Trek III	9.95 1.95
Star Trek IV	9.95 1.95	Star Trek IV	9.95 1.95	Star Trek IV	9.95 1.95
Star Trek V	9.95 1.95	Star Trek V	9.95 1.95	Star Trek V	9.95 1.95
Star Trek VI	9.95 1.95	Star Trek VI	9.95 1.95	Star Trek VI	9.95 1.95
Star Trek VII	9.95 1.95	Star Trek VII	9.95 1.95	Star Trek VII	9.95 1.95
Star Trek VIII	9.95 1.95	Star Trek VIII	9.95 1.95	Star Trek VIII	9.95 1.95
Star Trek IX	9.95 1.95	Star Trek IX	9.95 1.95	Star Trek IX	9.95 1.95
Star Trek X	9.95 1.95	Star Trek X	9.95 1.95	Star Trek X	9.95 1.95
Star Trek XI	9.95 1.95	Star Trek XI	9.95 1.95	Star Trek XI	9.95 1.95
Star Trek XII	9.95 1.95	Star Trek XII	9.95 1.95	Star Trek XII	9.95 1.95
Star Trek XIII	9.95 1.95	Star Trek XIII	9.95 1.95	Star Trek XIII	9.95 1.95
Star Trek XIV	9.95 1.95	Star Trek XIV	9.95 1.95	Star Trek XIV	9.95 1.95
Star Trek XV	9.95 1.95	Star Trek XV	9.95 1.95	Star Trek XV	9.95 1.95
Star Trek XVI	9.95 1.95	Star Trek XVI	9.95 1.95	Star Trek XVI	9.95 1.95
Star Trek XVII	9.95 1.95	Star Trek XVII	9.95 1.95	Star Trek XVII	9.95 1.95
Star Trek XVIII	9.95 1.95	Star Trek XVIII	9.95 1.95	Star Trek XVIII	9.95 1.95
Star Trek XIX	9.95 1.95	Star Trek XIX	9.95 1.95	Star Trek XIX	9.95 1.95
Star Trek XX	9.95 1.95	Star Trek XX	9.95 1.95	Star Trek XX	9.95 1.95

Cheque and PO (Sterling only) made payable to Discount Software, Dept 3, 210 Nichols Tower, Marlow, Essex.

RELEVANCE IS THE TOUCHSTONE OF ADVERTISING EFFECTIVENESS

THE ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS:

INGENUOUS JUSTIFICATION OF CONCEPT TO CLIENT

STARTLING, OFFBEAT IMAGE BASED ON POLAROID SUPPLIED BY CLIENT

CHALLENGE TO CONSUMER'S CRAVING FOR MEANINGFUL INTERACTION

AND DON'T FORGET THE PACKSHOT!!

INVITATION TO SELF-ACTUALISATION THROUGH PRODUCT CONSUMPTION

This dog would like you to buy THE SNOW QUEEN

Why? Because whether you're a Golden Retriever or a dogged adventure game freak, The Snow Queen is an unusually intriguing illustrated text adventure. Based on Hans Andersen's sinister fable, the frowns of evil challenges you to free a young boy from the forces of events. But there's a catch: you'll have to guide and advise Genda — a headstrong young girl who's not easy to direct. The Snow Queen has been programmed by St Bride's, who have a growing reputation for clever adventures of surprising ingenuity. Mosaic's loved it. And down at the Tailwaggers' Club, the dog has loved it more than any other game and a

THE SNOW QUEEN

An unusually intriguing illustrated text adventure

Program by St Bride's

Available for Spectrum and Commodore • Release date: May 1986 • Price: £19.95 (includes pack)

Copyright © 1986 Mosaic Publishing Ltd. All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording, or by any information storage and retrieval system, without the prior written permission of Mosaic Publishing Ltd.



- **Machine:** Amstrad
- **Supplier:** Gremlin Graphics
- **Price:** £8.95

Keep on running, good old Monty Mole is back on the run bidding for freedom. This time it's on the Amstrad and a very creditable performance it is.

The plot of the game should now be familiar to most people. After Monty's breakout from Scudmore Prison, Monty must make his way to freedom through hideouts and secret locations.

To help him on his journey Monty has been given a "freedom kit" containing 21 useful items. These range from a compass and a bottle of rum to a floppy disk. But only the correct five items will get through to the end of the game.

So pick wisely.

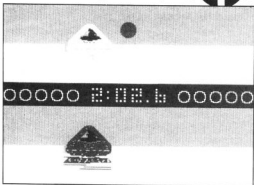
Scattered throughout the 49 screens are gold coins which Monty must collect to make himself a comfortable nest egg. And, of course, there are various nannies lurking around to make sure Monty's freedom is cut short.

Basically *Monty on the Run* is a platform game in which he must cope with ropes, ladders etc to get to new locations.

The graphics, as one would expect on the Amstrad, are very bright and colourful. In the sound stakes, the Commodore version still has the edge.

Monty's success keeps on running for Gremlin. A hit.

- **Graphics**
- **Sound**
- **Value**
- **Playability**



KICKSTART

- **Machine:** Commodore 128
- **Supplier:** Mastertronic
- **Price:** £4.99 (disc only)

I must admit that the idea of reviewing a motorcycle game didn't exactly fill me with excitement. However, the program didn't seem to take the usual age to load as other discs, and the first screen, offering lots of options, was very professional.

Some vaguely familiar music plays in the background, as you select the number of players and joysticks, and the three courses to attempt. In all there are 27, and you can choose from three groups of eight, after trying your hand at the practice circuit.

The basic idea is very simple. You take you and your bike to the Kickstart trials, and have to progress through the various courses in as little time as possible. Obviously, going flat-out won't get you very far. And you'll soon realise that if you are going to finish in any half-decent time, it's necessary to get some pretty fine control on the joystick!

When you begin play, you are "greeted" by some pretty drive music from the TV programme.

Movement is quite straightforward; push the stick

left and you'll slow down, right and you'll speed up. Up will cause a wheelie, and pressing the fire-button will make you jump.

At first, everything seemed easy. Only a few jumps and hazards to negotiate. Rapidly, though, life became much trickier, and what with buses, gravel, spring-boards and mystery traps, I seemed to spend more time on the deck than on the bike!

Each obstacle must be tackled in a different way.

It's possible to crash in a quite spectacular way. A particular favourite is falling off the back of the cycle, and letting it roll away. I could repeat that one at any time I wanted...

The game proved rather frustrating after a time. If you fall off half-way through an obstacle, you may have to ride quite a long way before re-joining the course.

Graphics are good, and the speed is acceptable. It's a good game, and is instantly enjoyable, as there's no need to learn obscure joystick or keyboard instructions.

- **Graphics**
- **Sound**
- **Value**
- **Playability**

7
6
9
7

CLASSIC INVADERS

- **Machine:** Amstrad
- **Supplier:** Bubble Bus
- **Price:** £2.99

Bubble Bus, who are famous for *Starquake* and *Wizard's Lair*, have jumped on to the budget software bandwagon and are releasing a "Mini Bus" range. *Classic Invaders* is one of the first.

Quite simply, *Classic Invaders* is *Space Invaders*, plain and simple. But what really makes a difference is the colour, jingles, and playing speed.

This game is much more fun to play than the original arcade game, don't ask why, it just is!

At the price of £2.99 it's great value, and it may prove more fun than some of the more expensive releases.

- **Graphics**
- **Sound**
- **Value**
- **Playability**

7
8
10
7

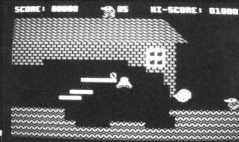
BALL BLAZER

- **Machine:** Amstrad
- **Supplier:** Activision
- **Price:** £7.99

Ball Blazer the smash hit on the Atari and the C64, has jumped onto the Spectrum, but I think some of it got messed up ever

way. Oh well, I suppose just one of those things.

Basically the game goes like this: You are in the future and taking part in a sport that is so popular, that being champion is the greatest honour you could ever get. I means this sport is



big, man!

All you do is control a special craft which can glide along at incredible speeds, pick up the ball and shoot it into the opponent's goal. Apart from the obvious distractions like your opponent, the goal posts move so you can't hang about to long on a shot.

The maximum you can score is ten points, but as your opponent scores, so your score decreases. You win by getting more points than he does.

The graphics seem to have gone a little off balance. There are screen glitches (lines which cut across the screen), and the sound is also nowhere near as good as the original.

In my opinion, unless you really loved the original, steer clear of it.

- **Graphics**
- **Sound**
- **Value**
- **Playability**

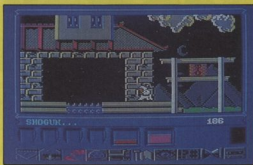
7
5
6
7

- **Machine:** Amstrad/Commodore 64
- **Supplier:** Virgin
- **Price:** £9.95

Urgh! It had to happen eventually, didn't it? The extraordinarily thick book by James Clavell, featuring lots of ritual killing and men in skirts has been converted for "lucky" Commodore and Amstrad users. (Although one suspects that perhaps the TV serialisation provided more inspiration...)

The Amstrad version was reluctant to load, and it was necessary to try the second side of the tape before the title page appeared. Continual attempts, though, produced the desired effect and the program was ready to go.

The game is icon-driven, and by positioning the cursor over the appropriate picture you can manipulate objects and talk to people. The aim of the game is



to move around the land and collect followers. Once you have achieved the necessary quota, you'll be informed of your mission for the rest of the game.

While you travel around, text will flash up on the bottom of the screen to inform you of

events which have been going on in your absence (quite handy for keeping tabs on your friends and foes when you are doing something else).

Should a character decide that he doesn't want to join your merry band, you can always try a little physical

persuasion. Some of the more ignorant types will continue to fight though.

The Commodore version is by far superior to the Amstrad, with better sound, steady graphics, and far nicer text. The 64 version has good music and sound effects. It's also easier to select an icon.

Although the game is entertaining, it didn't hold my interest for long. If you had the time to sit down and plan your game activities properly, it would appear more.



- **Graphics**
- **Sound**
- **Value**
- **Playability**

	AMST	CBM
Graphics	7	9
Sound	4	7
Value	6	8
Playability	5	8



- **Machine:** Amstrad
- **Supplier:** Epyx/US Gold
- **Price:** £9.95 (Cass), £14.95 (Disc)

When *Winter Games* came into the C+VG offices I grabbed it quick. I love the C64 version of the game, and if my information was right, I was in for a treat!

Winter Games, is one of the best sport simulations because everything is timed movement. There's no smashing the joystick to pieces.

Various controls are needed in different events, which makes a change, and each one requires skill and not just brute strength. When the game had loaded, I thought great, I'll be an American athlete, but oh no!!, you couldn't pick your country!

Having got over this, I found out that you needed to redefine the keys in order to use the joystick. That seems a bit daft. Then I read the other options, the first one said "Compete in

both events", what do you mean BOTH events? Quickly reading the instructions I found the explanation.

It would appear that you have to load in two events at a time — what a pain for tape users.

The graphics for each event are excellent, well the backdrops anyway. The man (or

character) seems to appear as blocky as blocky can be; except for the graphics of the woman who does the ice skating.

Overall, if you've seen the C64 version and are going to buy the Amstrad one because you think it's the same, don't. Even the little ditties don't match up to those on the good

old Speccy.

Come on Epyx, pull your Amstrad programming finger out.

- **Graphics**
- **Sound**
- **Value**
- **Playability**

8
6
7
6



24 HOUR

COMPUTER REPAIRS

HOW TO GET YOUR SPECTRUM REPAIRED FOR ONLY £19.95

THE NO. 1
REPAIR CENTRE
IN THE U.K.
OTHERS
FOLLOW

SPECTRUM (only)
KEYBOARD
REPAIRS £8.95
THE CHEAPEST
AROUND

WHILE YOU
WAIT SERVICE
CALL FOR APPOINTMENT

TRADE
REPAIRS MOST
WELCOME

WHY NOT COME AND
VISIT US AT OUR NEW 2,500
SQ. FT. WORKSHOP. YOU CAN
EVEN HAVE A CUP OF COFFEE
WHILE YOU WAIT



TEN ★ REPAIR SERVICE

- While you wait service including computer spare parts over the counter.
- All computers fully overhauled and fully tested before return.
- Fully insured for the return journey.
- Fixed low price of £19.95 including post, packing and VAT. Not a between price of really up to £30.00 which some of our competitors are quoting!
- Discounts for schools and colleges.
- Five top games worth £35.00 for you to enjoy and play with every Spectrum repair.
- We repair Commodore 64's, Vic 20's, Commodore 16's and Plus 4's.
- The most up to date test equipment developed by us to fully test and find all faults within your computer.
- Keyboard repairs, Spectrum rubber key boards only £8.95.
- 3 month written guarantee on all repairs.

VIDEOVAULT HEALTH WARNING!!!

Sending your computer to any other Repair Centre can seriously Damage its Health -

ARE YOU ANOTHER CUSTOMER - fed up waiting weeks for your estimate?

Need your computer repaired fast? Then send it now to the **Number One Repair Company in the U.K.**, or call in and see us at our new fully equipped 2,500 square foot workshop, with all the **latest test equipment** available. You are more than welcome.

We will repair your computer while you wait and help you with any of your technical problems. Commodore computers repaired for only **£35.00**. Please note we give you a **100% low fixed price** of **£19.95** which includes return post and packing, VAT, not a between price like some other Repair Companies offer. We don't shock you with repair bills **£30.00** upwards. We don't just repair the fault and send your computer back, we give your computer a:-

(FREE) OVERHAUL WITH EVERY REPAIR WE DO:-

We correct Colour, Sound, Keyboard, Check the loading and saving chip, Put new feet on the base if required, Check for full memory, Check all sockets including ear/mike and replace where needed.

All for an inclusive price of **£19.95** including VAT, all parts, insurance and post and packing. No hidden extras whatsoever. We don't have to boast too much about our service as we have thousands of customers from all over the world highly delighted with our service. A first class reputation for speed and accuracy. Don't forget, we are only twenty minutes from Manchester City Centre so why not call in, have a coffee with us and see your computer being repaired.

BEST SERVICE - BEST PRICES!

NEW

NOW OPEN VideoVault

"INTERNATIONAL" REPAIR CENTRE

... WITH ALL THE
LATEST TEST EQUIPMENT
When you send your computer to us we don't only repair it, we check the colour, sound, memory, keyboard, feet, in fact fully overhaul your computer for as little as **£19.95**. The price includes all costs including return post, packing and insurance, plus VAT, three months no quibble guarantee with each repair.

PLUS NOW 5 FREE EXCITING

TOP GAMES WORTH OVER
£33.00 (M.R.P.)

DON'T WAIT WEEKS FOR
YOUR QUOTE TO ARRIVE.

We repair all computers within 24 hours, the quickest in the business, or a "while you wait" service. 20 minutes from Manchester.

COMMODORES * NOW REPAIRED *

Commodore 64, C16's, Vic 20,
Same Day Service

Call us for details or purchase
the I.C.'s from our D.I.Y. section

TRADE
ORDERS
WELCOME

HOW TO SEND OFF YOUR COMPUTER

Just parcel your computer in suitable packaging enclosing just **£19.95** for your Spectrum repair, or **£35.00** for your Commodore 64 repair. Enclose your name, address and telephone number and a brief description of the fault. Remember you can also charge the repairs to your Access card.

WHAT OUR CUSTOMERS THINK!

- Highly delighted, the best service around. (Mr. Adamson, Manchester)
- I sent my computer to a competitor of yours in Manchester, what a mess they made of it. I am glad there are Companies like yours around, honest and highly skilled. I would recommend you to all my friends. An excellent job. (Mr. Warren, London)
- I visited your premises at Christmas. In a space of one hour I visited your workshop, saw my computer being repaired and tested and discussed my problems with your Technicians. I don't know how you do it at the price. (Mr. Gregory, Birmingham)
- Amazing service. I received my computer back within 48 hours of sending it to you. I couldn't believe it. (Mrs J. Walters, Scotland)
- I would like to thank all your staff in the help they gave me in recommending to me the spare parts I needed to repair my keyboard. (Mr. Peterson, Cardiff)

GLASSOP GOT 1ST PRIZE FOR SPEEDY REPAIRS
(Commodore User Magazine)

and COMPUTER SPARES

SCOOP

PURCHASE OF SURPLUS STOCK!

Due to a complete report order, we now have a large selection of components at a special price for the Spectrum computer direct to the public. Due to limited space we are not able to show all our spares available - no place left on the wall! We will be happy to give you the current price on all your spares for the Spectrum, Commodore range. We also give some spares available for the ZX81.

CANCELLED EXPORT ORDER

SPARES FROM OUR D.I.Y. SECTION

WHY NOT PURCHASE THE SPARES FOR YOUR COMPUTERS FROM US. THE ONLY MAIL ORDER COMPANY SELLING SPARES.



Same day delivery service on receipt of orders. You can order by Access card or call at our Reception to collect.

ACCESS WELCOME

ORDER NOW!

TRADE REPAIRS
most cases



SPECIAL OFFER!

Gun Shot II Rapid Fire Joystick and Interface complete outfit. Normal recommended retail price £19.95, if purchased together. Special offer of only **£16.50** including p & p. Joystick available as separate item **£10.95** plus interface available as separate item **£9.00** plus £1.50 p & p.



KEYBOARD MEMBRANES

Spectrum keyboard membranes **£5.50** plus £1.50 p & p
Spectrum Plus keyboard membranes **£12.90** plus £1.50 p & p
ZX81 membranes **£5.00** plus £1.50 p & p



KEYBOARD TEMPLATES

£5.50 plus £1.50 p & p



EXTENSION RIBBON

56 Way ribbon cable to extend your ports for your peripherals **£10.95** plus £1.50 p & p

ZX81 SPARES NOW IN STOCK



RUBBER MAT

£6.50 plus £1.50 p & p

POWER SUPPLY

Spectrum replacement power transformer suitable for all make of computer **£9.95** plus £1.50 p & p

SPECIAL OFFER!

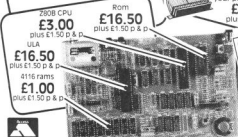
Why not upgrade your ordinary Spectrum into the fantastic DE Tronics typewriter keyboard for only **£31.50** including fitting, VAT and return post and packing. Normal recommended retail price **£49.95**. Replacement printed DE Tronics key sets **£7.50** including post & packing.



COMMODORE POWER SUPPLY

Commodore replacement power transformer **£29.00** plus £1.50 p & p

ORDER NOW!



Z8080 CPU

£3.00 plus £1.50 p & p

Rom

£16.50 plus £1.50 p & p

ULA

£16.50 plus £1.50 p & p

4116 RAMs

£1.00 plus £1.50 p & p

VideoVault

D.I.Y. CORNER

We regret we cannot show all the components available. Just give us a call and we can quote you over the phone. delivery by 1st class post.

SPECTRUM SPARES

Z8080 CPU	3.00
4116 RAMs	1.00
ULA	16.50
4116 RAMs	1.00
Power Supply Transformers	0.60
ULA 6C001	0.60
Rom	16.50
Keyboard membrane	16.50
Spectrum keyboard membrane	12.90
Spectrum Plus	5.50
Metal Templates	5.50
Keyboard Mats	5.50
ZX81 membrane	5.00
Spectrum Service Manuals	0.30
including Spectrum + model	

COMMODORE SPARES

6526 - C.I.A.	23.00
6510 - Processor	23.00
6581 - 8rd Chip	23.00
906114 - House Keeper	23.00
901225 - Graphic Room	23.00
901226 - Basic Room	23.00
901227 - kernel Rom	23.00
6168 - VIC	23.00
6164 RAMs - Memory	23.00
Power Supply Transformers	29.00

All our prices include VAT but please add £1.50 on each order to cover post, packing and handling charges.

VIDEOVAULT HEALTH WARNING!!!

Sending your computer to any other Repair Centre can seriously damage its health.

SPECIAL OFFER!

Why not upgrade your 16K Spectrum to a 48K for as little as **£17.95** including VAT, post and packing. If you would like us to fit the kit for you, just send us **£19.95** which is a fully inclusive price to cover all costs including return postage. Full fitting instructions supplied with every kit. Issue 2 and 3 only.



FULLY REPAIRED AND TESTED ON MOST ADVANCED TEST EQUIPMENT IN EUROPE!

VideoVault Ltd

140 High St. West, Glossop, Derbyshire, England
Telephone: Glossop (STD 04574) 66555/67761

© Copyright Videovault Ltd. No. 140586

5 GREAT FREE GAMES
NORMAL RECOMMENDED RETAIL PRICE
£33.00
YOURS FREE WITH EVERY SPECTRUM REPAIR

MEGASAVE FANTASTIC SAVINGS

SPECTRUM		Who Dares Wins II	5.95	Boulder D1	7.50
Fantlight	7.50	Rebel Planet	7.50	Back to the Future	7.50
Elite	11.25	Equinox	7.50	Undrum D1	6.75
Zoids	5.95	Grph. Ad. Creator	19.50	Kunk Fu Master D1	7.50
Lord of the Rings	12.50	Bananas	7.50	Law of the Wild	7.50
Commando	7.50	Wit. Cup Carnival	7.50	Bomb Jack D1	7.50
Back to Skool	5.25	Core	6.75	Twister	5.50
Rock n. Wrestle	6.75	Time Trax	7.50	Way of the Tiger	7.50
Tomahawk	7.60	Pynacurse	7.50	FA Cup	5.95
Subsector	6.75	Dynatime Don II	5.95	PBI-5 Trading D1	7.50
Roller Coaster	5.25	Action Reflex	5.95	Fantlight D3	6.75
Mice	5.95	Krei	6.75	Starring Andromeda	7.50
Yu Ai Kung Fu	5.95	Silent Service	7.50	Green Hell	6.75
Pin Pong	7.50	Caution II	6.75	Zip Spzies	7.50
Gadabout	5.95	Spitting Image	5.95	Tigers in the Snow	7.50
Desert Rat	6.75	Tenor of Talossa	5.95	Off the Hook	7.50
Superbow	7.50	Snow Queen	7.50	Biggles	7.50
Art Studio	12.50	Nexus	7.50	Tubular Bells	5.95
Turbo Expert	6.75	Toad Run	5.95	Archer II D3	7.50
Sky Fox	6.75	Tantalus	6.75	Golf Construction D1	9.95
Movie	5.95	Laser Genesis	12.50	Hocus Focus	6.75
Way of Tiger	7.50	Bobby Bearing	5.95	Red Hawk	7.50
Bomb Jack	5.95	Killer Tomatoes	5.95	Empire	7.50
FA Cup	5.95	COMMODORE 64		Raise Titanic	7.50
Twister	5.50	Exploding Flat D1	11.00	Spindizzy D1	7.50
Heavy on Magic	7.50	Summer Games II D1	7.50	War Play	5.95
Sam Fox Sorghouse	5.95	Spy Fox D3	5.95	Doomdark Revenge	7.50
Batman	5.95	Mercurial D3	7.50	Price of Magic	7.50
Comet Game	5.95	Terminator D3	7.50	Questprobe	7.50
Paper Boy	7.50	Zeus D1	6.75	Ghost n. Goblins	7.50
Cash Smashes	5.50	Summer Games I D1	7.50	"V"	7.50
Sak Combat	5.95	Winter Games D1	7.50	Saint Service D1	7.50
Green Beret	7.50	Sold a Mission	7.50	Core	7.50
Price of Magic	7.50	Who Dares Wins	6.25	Grph. Ad. Creator	19.50
Quasatron	7.50	Commando	7.50	Caution II	7.75
Boulder	6.75	Skool Daze	5.95	Cup Carnival D1	7.30
Hocus Focus	6.75	Enginal Force	7.50	Southern Belle	5.95
Biggles	7.50	Magic n. Revenge	6.75	Snow Queen	7.50
Strike Force Hammer	7.50	Rock n. Wrestle D1	7.50	Laser Genesis	12.50
Alien Highway	5.95	Roller Coaster	5.95	Altered Ego Disk	19.95
Spindizzy	7.50	Red Hawk	6.75	Shogun D3	7.50
Rebel Planet	7.50	Core	7.50	Nexus D3	7.50
Krei	6.75	Desert Fox D1	7.50	Tau Ceti D3	7.50
Starstrike II	5.95	Superbow	7.50	Knights Games D3	6.75
"V"	5.95	Hardball D1	7.50	Spitfire	2.99
Ghost n. Goblins	5.95	Wild West	9.50	Rebel Planet D1	7.50
Empire	7.50	Lord of the Wild	7.50	Int. Karate	5.95
				Santafoa Fox	7.50
				Batman	7.50

Postage included UK. Please state which micro. Fast service.

Send cheque/PO to: MEGASAVE, Dept CVO, 49H Sutherland Street, Victoria, London SW1.

MAIL ORDER ONLY: Send for FREE list Amstrad, C16, MSX, D-Disks Available, D1 at £12.50, D3 at £10.50.

ACCESS

ATTENTION AMERICANA SOFTWARE OWNERS DID YOU

KEEP THIS!

If you did then you're the lucky winner of a free Americana product of your choice. If you didn't or your Americana game wasn't one of the many that included this outstanding offer then go out now and buy one - there's a lot of them about.

For these lucky winners simply indicate the Americana game of your choice in the space below and send it to Americana Software and we'll forward your free game by return.

Americana Software
Unit 10, Parkway
Industrial Estate
Birmingham B7 1Y

LICENSED TO THRILL
AMERICANA
SOFTWARE



Big Red has either stamped on my local newsgroup or Mellissa has run off with him. Either way I'm having trouble getting hold of my monthly copy of C+VG.

Please help.
Signed

Desperate

Editor's Reply.
I'm afraid Big Red can get a bit out of hand, and as for Mellissa well there's no accounting for taste. To ensure you don't miss a single copy of C+VG, why don't take out a subscription. We guarantee that you'll receive 12 months' issues, posted direct to your door on the 15th of every month.



Please start me a subscription to Computer & Video Games.

Tick Box
UK. £15 ☐

Europe £28 ☐

(Surface Mail) - Rest of World £35 ☐

(Airmail) - Rest of World £60 ☐

I enclose a cheque/P.O. for £

Please debit my Access/Visa A/c.

Amount £ _____ Number _____

Expiry Date _____ Signed _____

Name _____

Address _____

Postcode _____

Please make cheques payable to Computer & Video Games.

Return to: Carl Dunne, C+VG, Magazine Services, EMAP, 30-32 Farringdon Lane, London EC1R 3AU.
Telephone: 01-251 6222.



TOMAHAWK

- **Machine:** Amstrad
- **Supplier:** Digital Integration
- **Price:** £9.95/£14.95 (disc/tape)

The new one from D.I. (hurrah!), it's 3D (whoopiee!). It's by D.K. Marshall (cheer!). It's a helicopter combat game (frenzied excitement!). Oh, and it features Lenslok. (GuurrooAAAN!)

DI are yet another company to invest in Lenslok. And here at C+VG we reckon that it's probably the most diabolically dreadful system ever invented. It's horrible, and we don't like it. We couldn't get it to work. And DI wouldn't give us an unexpected copy, which put this reviewer in an absolutely FOUL mood.

Happily, though, the

game isn't quite as hard to get to grips with. Well, not QUITE... As with *Fighter Pilot* before it, *Tomahawk* is amazingly complex.

Taking off isn't too difficult (it only took me twenty minutes to work that out!) From that point in, however, things become much more difficult. You have to take an awful lot of care while flying.

If you like simulations, then you'll probably like this too.

In protecting the planet from invasion.

There are 32 doors on the planet and the activator locks were well disguised and hidden.

The Spike Punkoids, the best fighting mutants ever developed, soon decided that they would need all the defences of their ship, their amazing instinctive cunning and their six defensive weapons systems.

Your ultimate goal is the assassination of the deviant but in order to achieve this aim you will first need to open all 32 deadly doors by firing at and hitting the lock activators dead centre. Each time an activator is opened, a door, somewhere in the Fortress, will be removed.

There are 48 different types of alien defenders with 16 different light patterns, randomly distributed around the Fortress.

Spike begins the game inside the Protonthrust craft — but if you find an airlock you can exit the craft and Spike is revealed in all his Punkoid glory.

There's no doubt that *Tomahawk* is a very pretty game — but like *Glass* once you've enjoyed the graphics for a bit you begin to realise that there's not much to the actual game. A vast playing area is no substitute for addictive game play. Ultimately — like *Glass* — the game gets a bit boring.

Great graphics, nice hero — but nothing that makes you want to come back for just one more go.

- **Graphics**
- **Sound**
- **Value**
- **Playability**

- **Graphics**
- **Sound**
- **Value**
- **Playability**

- **Machine:** Spectrum
- **Supplier:** Probe Software
- **Price:** £7.95

No, this isn't the game of the group of the same name. There's not even a hint of hip-hop in the music. But never fear, Probe have still come up with an extremely playable game.

Mantronix looks very Ultimate-ish, 3D diagonally scrolling graphics with lots of little bouncing, spinning deadly alien creatures to avoid and many objects to collect.

It might also remind you of *Gunfight* just a bit. But so what?

The basic idea is this. You are an interplanetary bounty hunter and your job is simply to hunt down wanted criminals. To help you do this you have a *Mantronix* — a well armed law enforcement robot. A sort of Dirty Harry robot. Anyway, at the start of the game you find yourself on the planet Zybör — the baddies' hideout.

Zybör is a sparse planet, populated by an advanced race of humanoids, who are programmed to protect four planetary criminals — called XTRO II, Ariel Head, Max Porka and Yokohama.

Many Bounty Hunters have tried and many have failed to reap the rewards and each has suffered the same fate — death.

Equipped with a sophisticated pulse laser and a Mk.1 autoscanner camera, your *Mantronix* can be controlled from your combat craft. While viewing the planet's landscape and transmitting the pictures back to your craft, it can also collect valuable items and enter into combat.

You must find and terminate the four criminals before the humanoids kill your *Mantronix*. However, the *Mantronix* must also find eight power cubes which are necessary to reverse the direction of conveyor belts and essential as fuel for your homeward flight.

Death is never very far away on Zybör and you'll need a cool head and a steady joystick to survive for very long when you first start playing.

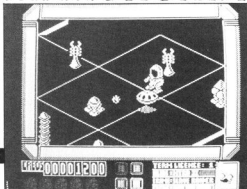
Underneath the main play screen you see your score, lives left, the number of power cubes activated and a status readout about the criminal you are currently hunting on the right-hand side. This tells you his name, crime and how many credits you'll earn by bagging him. Another similarity with *Gunfight*.

If you yearn for the days when *Ultimate* created GOOD games then this will provide a good substitute. Very playable, good value.

- **Graphics**
- **Sound**
- **Value**
- **Playability**

7
8
7
8

MANTRONIX



TANTALUS

- **Machine:** Spectrum
- **Supplier:** Quicksilver
- **Price:** £8.95

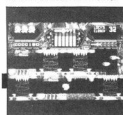
Paul Hargreaves, the teenage graphic genius who brought you *Glass* — the extremely pretty shoot 'em up — is back with *Tantalus* a 1024 screen epic starring Spike the Punkoid.

Spike, as all those who have studied the History of the Universe will know, is a genetically mutated creature produced by Punkoid Development Corporation.

Famed for their fighting prowess the Punkoids are sent on the most important mission of their, inhuman, lives — to assassinate the last deviant human being on this side of the anti-matter curtain.

A team of four Spike Punkoids have been sent to the planet Tantalus to kill the deviant but it isn't an easy task.

The plot is riddled with caverns and hidden passages, known as the Fortress. The deviant had used his time well



- **Graphics**
- **Sound**
- **Value**
- **Playability**

8
8
5
5

C+VG SURVEY

Every month *Computer + Video Games* tries to bring you the most comprehensive, informative and fun-packed look at the world of computer games. Most of the time we're pretty pleased with the way things turn out. But we're not that big-headed to think everything is perfect.

That's why we're asking you to tell us what you think of C+VG. Go on, tell the truth, we're tough enough to take it.

What we want you to do is answer the following questions and send them to *Computer + Video Games*, 30-32 Farringdon Lane, London EC1R 3AU.

The survey is divided up into sections based on the regular features in the magazine. Most will involve straightforward Yes/No answers with space for a brief comment. But there is also the chance for you to give your opinions on the magazine in general.

So help us to help you by taking part in our survey.

REVIEWS

What do you think of the reviews?

Comment _____

NEWS/HOT GOSSIP

What do you think of the news and Hot Gossip?

Comment _____

BUGHUNTERS CARTOON

Do you enjoy the comic strip? YES/NO

Comment _____

DEAR BUGHUNTERS

Is the Dear Bughunters column and telephone service useful? YES/NO

Comment _____

IDEAS CENTRAL

Are the hints, tips and pokes useful? YES/NO

Comment _____

LISTINGS

Are the program listings interesting to you? YES/NO

Comment _____

ARCADE ACTION

Do you like Arcade Action? YES/NO

Should it be longer? YES/NO

Comment _____

ADVENTURE

What do you think of the Adventure pages?

Comment _____

TOP 30 SOFTWARE CHARTS

Are the charts of any interest? YES/NO

Comment _____

MAILBAG/PEN PALS

Should more letters be printed? YES/NO

Are those that are printed interesting? YES/NO

Comment _____

HOT SHOTS/HALL OF FAME

Could these two features be improved YES/NO

Comment _____

FEATURES

C+VG publishes a variety of different features, letters from America, films, videos etc.

Do you enjoy these? YES/NO

Do they have a place in a computer magazine? YES/NO

What other sort of features would you like to read? _____

MAPS

Are these useful? YES/NO

Comment _____

GENERAL

Do you prefer the new look C+VG to the old one? YES/NO

Comment _____

Is there anything you would like to see in the magazine that isn't in now? _____

What other computer magazines do you read? _____

Besides computer games, what other hobbies or interest do you have? _____

Name _____

Address _____

Age _____

MERMAID MADNESS

"... have you ever seen
... an arcade adventure in
which the hero
has to drink stout ...?"

Zzap 64



*Electric
Dreams*

SOFTWARE

In this arcade comedy a mild-mannered diver, Gormless Gordon is set upon by buxom bulging Myrtle, the Mermaid with a face that sank a thousand ships.

Thrill to the music, quake at the terrors of the deep, boldly go where no man has gone before, and discover hidden wonders that will make your knees quake and have you reaching for your scuba gear.

FEATURES

An extensive underwater landscape including a wrecked ocean liner, submarine caverns and a sunken city. Numerous puzzles to solve and objects to collect and use. A "nutty" musical soundtrack which continually changes to accompany Myrtle through the varying locations. Detailed fully animated cartoon style graphics in full colour.

Mail order:

Electric Dreams Software
23 Pond Street, Hampstead
London NW3 2PN

Available for:

Commodore 64 Cassette	(£9.99)
Commodore 64 Disk	(£14.99)
ZX Spectrum 48K	(£9.99)
Amstrad CPC Cassette	(£9.99)
Amstrad CPC Disk	(£14.99)

Pyracurse

For 48k ZX Spectrum
and 128k ZX Spectrum (in 48k mode)
CASSETTE = £9.95

For mail order send a cheque/postal order to Hewson
Consultants Ltd. Order by credit card by sending your
Access/Barclaycard Number, and enclose a specimen
signature. Don't forget to enclose your
name and address.

GSH

Penetrate the Portals of Pyracurse

Probe the evil of the Inca curse — discover the lost tomb of Xipe Totec, the Sun God. Adopt the characters to manoeuvre through the depths and darkness of tombs and crypts. Guide the tired and emotional Legless O'Donnell, the drunken reporter, archaeologist Professor Roger Kite, fiancée to the provocative Daphne, and the mischievous dog, Freddie, in their battle to save Daphne from the devastating curse of the ancient South American God Xipe Totec — Their success depends on you...

Pyracurse is a unique development featuring an isometric 3-D projection with full hidden object removal and high speed multi-directional scrolling.
Another fantastic adventure brought to you by Hewson.

HEWSON

56b Milton Trading Estate, Milton, Abingdon, Oxon. OX14 4RX

Hewson Consultants Ltd

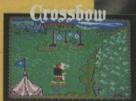
As part of our continuing development of innovative software we are always happy to evaluate software sent to us with a view to publication.

Knight Games...

...bet you can't beat a good Knight!

Knight Games brings medieval combat to life on Commodore and Amstrad computers, featuring One/Two player action, superb animation, brilliant hi-resolution graphics, eight specially composed medieval—rock tunes and selectable skill levels.

EIGHT DIFFERENT CHALLENGING EVENTS



Available on Disk and Fast Load cassette for Commodore 64/128 and Amstrad computers. Screenshots shown are from the Commodore 64 version of Knight Games.

COMMODORE
64/128:

Cassette £8.95
Disk £12.95



ENGLISH
SOFTWARE



AMSTRAD
464/664/6128:
Cassette £8.95
3" Disk £14.95

1 NORTH PARADE, PARSONAGE GARDENS, MANCHESTER M60 1BX.
TELEPHONE: 061-835 1358.

TELEX: 8950511 ONEONE G. Ref: 14797001 DISTRIBUTED by U.S. GOLD 021-359 8881

Wargaming has always attracted an enthusiastic following. Tactics, strategy and the romance of history are combined to create a fascinating pastime. But now a new ingredient is creeping in — the computer. Dr Stephen Badsey, formerly of the Imperial War Museum and a researcher on the BBC's *Soldiers* series, ponders on the future of wargaming with computers. He also takes a look at the latest computer war games on the market.

There's a story doing the rounds about a Russian diplomat who bought a space invaders game in Washington and discovered it had a more sophisticated guidance system than the one used in Soviet missiles... It may even be true. Regardless, in the last five years it is not only real wars on which the computer has begun to make an impact. The computerised wargame has definitely arrived.

Sadly, there have been fewer than three hundred years in the last three thousand when there has not been a war somewhere in the world. To ignore wars is to ignore about half of human history. War "games" are a good way of showing what happens in war, and give full scope to amateur generals, without the misery and danger that all wars involve. No one ever got killed at a computer keyboard.

What makes computers so useful in simulating modern war in particular, is that many computer games, even the arcade variety, come originally from concepts intended for weapons systems. In the 1973 Arab-Israeli War, for example, the Israeli tankmen knew all about the new generation of wire-guided anti-tank missiles such as the Russian "Sagger", but believed they were too complex for the Egyptian troops to use. But the Russians had simplified the Sagger's controls down to a screen, a joystick and a firing button. It was space invaders for real — with the Israelis as the target. The computer wargamer often receives the same kind of information, in this way, as his real-life counterpart. Most of modern strategic command consists of sitting in a room — or tent, or ship — at a desk and issuing orders by keyboard on the basis of written or spoken messages electronically communicated.

The computer games fraternity has already established its own particular branch of wargaming, in flight simulators. These can now provide quite realistic handling characteristics for

everything from a World War one biplane to a modern high-performance fighter. They will only improve as computers with larger memories continue to be more widely used. Air combat takes place in "real-time" encounters of only a few seconds, in which quick reflexes and a "feel" for the controls are vital. A continuous update, of the sort that the computer provides directly onto the screen, is by far the best way to represent this. The same is true of radar information to the attack centre of a warship or submarine.

Land warfare has been neglected in simulators so far. There has been a simplified tank simulator running in arcades now for years, but no one has developed the idea further. The main difference between a simulator and the real thing, apart from some simplification, is that you sometimes get less information than if you were really flying a plane. You can't feel the lurch which says you're in a power dive. In a really sophisticated program like the Microprose *F-15 Strike Eagle* the plane actually seems to handle slightly differently as its fuel tanks empty. Flying this simulator, I've taken a near-miss from a surface-to-air missile and the computerised blast has blown the plane upside-down! It's a pity Microprose have no writers for the Spectrum in this country. In terms of quantity, quality and availability they are the best producers of computer wargames around at the moment.

The traditional wargame started over a hundred years ago as a form of training for European armies. But modern wargaming really started in English-speaking countries about twenty years ago, and has grown into a major hobby with its own books, magazines, conventions and figure-manufacturers. There are, broadly, two main types of game. First, tactical games played with model soldiers — or ships, or aircraft — on realistically modelled terrain, which can be very attractive indeed to look at and fight over.

WAR

Secondly, strategy games which involve, notionally, thousands or millions of people and are played on boards representing general maps. (There are other types of wargame, such as committee or role-playing games in which computers would not be much help — no program can tell you, for example, the attitude of a crusading knight towards religion.) The problem with the main types of game is that they usually have very elaborate rules, needed to cope with simulations many times more complex than chess. Every wargame — as any wargamer will tell you — is a balance between realism and playability. As rules get more involved so more and more time is spent reading the rule-book and "playing the rules", rather than fighting the war.

One solution is to throw away the rules altogether, and have instead an umpire or panel of experts making judgements on what is likely to happen. The trouble with this method is that it can become a ritual for re-inforcing an established view on which "authority" is always right. Its adoption by armies at the end of the nineteenth century led, directly, to some of the better disasters of World War One. It looked, even a few years ago, as if the problem of playability could never be solved. Now, the computer may be on the way to solving it. If the rules are kept out of sight and under control by the program then the player is free to concentrate on the battle.

This is particularly true of the strategy wargame. The dominance of the hexagonal-grid boardgame (rather more in the United States than here) has led to such games being stuck in a "hex-shaped rut", with immensely complex rules and playing times of more than a day. At an almost visible rate the computer game is now replacing these hex boardgames, scoring over its rival in several important respects. On a computer the game can be saved, if necessary several times, and picked up again at a later date. It is

possible to play a challenging game solo against the machine. Most importantly, with a computer program, genuine hidden movement is possible. When chasing the *Bismark* in the North Sea or Rommel in the Western Desert, guessing where to look is the most important part of the game.

In this country there are very large areas of computer use which have not been touched by the commercial firms, and it has been left to wargamers to write, and even market, their own programs. However good computers may be for twentieth century strategy games they cannot — so far — match the visual appeal of figure games in earlier periods. There is little contest between a coloured square on a computer map and Napoleon's Old Guard in all its glory on the wargames table. A number of "games assistance programs" have, however, been written for figure wargames on a table, with the software replacing the rule-book. As long as the computer knows how far formation has moved and from where it started the program can keep track of how much ammunition has been fired, how fired the troops are, and how well they think they are doing. The big advantage of the computer system is that the player will tell him only "the Black Watch look unsteady", not that they have just lost three morale points.

Even very complex calculations of ballistics in artillery and naval gunfire engagements take only a few seconds using games assistance programs. One system, which plays with very cheap 5mm figures, is popularly known as "five hundred pounds of hardware and five pounds worth of troops", but the cost of a program is often no more or less than that of a rule-book.

If games assistance programs are the wave of the future, that wave has not yet broken. Even the most popular set of commercial wargames rules in existence, the Ancient Warfare rules of the Wargames Research Group, has no version for the

R GAMES

computer. Apparently they have been tried, but the program took longer to cycle through than using the rule-book! We will probably have to wait for 128K to become more generally used before more wargames rules are converted to software. As memories increase it will be possible to provide a map on the screen with better graphics, either as an overview or from the point of view of one location. At the moment it seems possible to get good graphics or a sophisticated rules-mechanism into 64K, but not both. Present programs cope well enough with the modern "empty battlefield", where the enemy, and even your own forces, are glimpsed occasionally, if at all. They should have no difficulty with battlefields before the twentieth century, where vision was often broken by random clouds of dust and smoke which are at the moment very difficult to represent by conventional wargaming methods. The best suggestion I have heard for a

computer point-of-view simulation is for a general on a horse, with the horse's ears sticking up at the bottom of the screen as a reference point.

The computer can also provide, not a general's viewpoint, but that of a common soldier. The shoot-em-up arcade games such as *Commando* and *Rambo* deserve their popularity, and are great fun to play, but no one thinks that they represent reality (any more than the film did, and I enjoyed that too). To give a soldier's experience it would easily be possible to adapt an adventure game program such as Melbourne House's *Lord of the Rings*. The under-armed, shy and often hungry hobbit, whose chief problem is avoiding danger and staying alive, is a more truthful version of the warrior than *Commando*.

By the very nature of a computer wargame it is impossible to change the program. Commercial writers of rule-books insist that even quite small changes in their own rules can unbalance play quite badly,

but if faced by an absolutely unreal situation you can always ignore the rules for a moment and sort it out. On the computer, if a crucial regiment suddenly attacks the wrong enemy, or heads in the wrong direction, there is nothing you can do. Arguably, this is good training for the realities of war. Alternatively, it is bad program writing. Software houses seem to be losing their notion that wargamers will tolerate anything.

Although I believe the firm-mentioning no names — which marketed exactly the same program for the Battle of Britain and the Battle of Waterloo is still in business. The most dishonest excuse I have seen for a computer wargame which bore no resemblance at all to the battle after which it was named was that it represented "a simulation, not a duplication, of history". By far the best of the recent programs are written by collaborations between conventional wargamers and programmers, or by a programmer who knows about wargames. The game is designed, within the limits of playability, to

duplicate the features of the original battle, and the software writer then has to translate it into program terms. As someone who frankly has trouble programming his video recorder I sympathise, but there's no other way to get a good computer wargame. Fortunately, wargaming does attract a significant number of computer scientists.

Professionals, people who use wargames as training exercises, try to make them as real as the real thing. The rest of us also need to enjoy playing the game. For this reason, a wargame will always contain more action, more simulated danger, and more targets than the realities of war dictate. Not for the wargamer the two hour standing patrol in the freezing cockpit of a Sopwith Camel, or the twenty months on a cavalry post without seeing the enemy, or the four years' training to be killed on the first day of action. Realism is the key to wargaming, and the computer is now making a major contribution to improving it. But don't ask for too much realism. The people who enjoy a war are few indeed.



THEIR FINEST HOUR

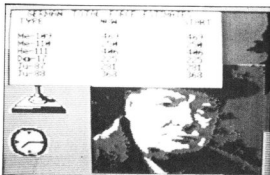
- Machine: Spectrum
- Supplier: Century Communications
- Price: £10.95

The Battle of Britain looks like a conjuring trick. A German force of over two thousand aircraft which had fought three victorious campaigns, including seven hundred excellent single-seat fighters, contested the skies of southern England with half that number of British planes, of inferior design except for a few Spitfires, flown by mostly inexperienced pilots using obsolete tactics. And the British won.

Many factors, including luck, played a part in the victory, but the key was the organisation of Fighter Command through sector control stations, linked to radar, and it is these which are the focus of John Wilson and Nicholas Palmer's excellent game. The player controls the squadrons of Ten and Eleven Group (Twelve Group in the north being too distant to help) as sector-sized units through the

early days of August 1940 against computer-controlled German raids. As casualties mount, depleted squadrons are replaced by novices, who, if they survive, become veterans in their turn. Limited warnings, becoming more limited as the radar stations are hit, and a variable game speed which requires instant decisions in the midst of the battle recreate superbly the atmosphere of the time.

Each day of the game takes about forty five minutes to play, at the end of which the player is summoned to meet Churchill, and either applauded, told to carry on, or — more likely — fired. The program is rather too ready, in fact, to tell the player he has lost, apparently on the basis that if three German raids get through the damage is too great. Unfortunately there are exactly four types of raid which cannot be stopped no matter what you do to them, including the five ME109s without bombers which I chased all the way to Wales (Group tanks?) where the last surviving six caused "crippling" damage to

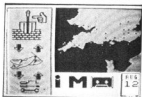


Swansea docks (with their machine guns?). This is sad, because on the rare occasions that the game goes beyond its first few days it presents a real challenge to strategic planning.

The virtues of having an experienced wargamer like Nicholas Palmer design this game are apparent in its subtleties and attention to detail.

The program also has a small bug which means that some care is required when saving the game.

Despite this, *Their Finest Hour*



is undoubtedly one of the best wargames I have ever played.

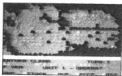
- | | |
|---------------|-----|
| ● Graphics | 9 |
| ● Sound | N/A |
| ● Value | 9 |
| ● Playability | 7 |

FALKLANDS 82

- Machine: Spectrum/CBM64
- Supplier: PSS
- Price: £7.95 (tape)

Falklands 82 is the latest war game offering from PSS, a campaign game of the land forces in East Falkland from the British landing to capture of Port Stanley.

The game was put out before much of the research on the Falklands had been published, and as a result some details, notably the Argentine order of battle, are slightly wrong. But this is nothing compared to the errors in the overall conception of the game. In order, they say, to improve playability, the authors have "intentionally understated" the poor fighting abilities of the Argentine troops, who will only start to surrender when all the major settlements on the island have been occupied by the British. Once the British have landed they may not again use sea transport or land in another location (making the Fitzroy landing impossible) nor have they any helicopter lift capacity, which the game designers thought made things too easy for them.



Presumably in compensation, there are no supply rules at all and the whole of East Falkland is treated as passable terrain for all units, including Argentine armour.

This complete disregard of realism would not matter so much if the playing mechanism was a good one. In fact it is slow moving and unimaginative, with the battalions behaving like chess pieces.

I wish I could find something good to say about this game. Five years ago it would have been a remarkable programming achievement. As it stands it is an insult, not only to anyone who buys it but to those who fought in the Falklands War.

- | | |
|---------------|-----|
| ● Graphics | 2 |
| ● Sound | N/A |
| ● Value | 2 |
| ● Playability | 2 |

DECISION IN THE DESERT

- Machine: CBM64/Atari/Apple II/IBM
- Supplier: US Gold/Microprose
- Price: £14.95 (disk)

From the same design team as *Crusade in Europe* this game uses the same playing mechanisms, this time very much more successfully. Again, the graphics, the briefing booklet and the range of interlinked scenarios offered are all excellent.

The war in the western desert from December 1940 to December 1942 still attracts considerable attention and controversy from old generals and new historians. In a virtually uninhabited wasteland, a handful of highly mobile units, each side short of supplies and with little chance of reinforcements, fought high speed encounter battles as if they were fleets at sea, with the prize the oilfields of the Arabian Gulf. A single regiment of tanks, a weapon now coming into its own, could mean the difference between victory and defeat. Desert war encouraged the unorthodox, the enterprising, and even the foolhardy. It has been



called war in its purest form. *Decision in the Desert* provides the five most interesting battles of the war, including two which deserve far more attention than they usually get.

- | | |
|---------------|---|
| ● Graphics | 9 |
| ● Sound | 3 |
| ● Value | 9 |
| ● Playability | 7 |

DESERT RATS

- Machine: Spectrum/CBM64
- Supplier: Cases Computer Simulations
- Price: £9.95 (tape)

This is the best of the three desert war games reviewed this month. Written by R. T. Smith, it has the same graphics style and extremely straightforward playing mechanism as his earlier *Arnhem*. But as the author says, it is far from being just "Arnhem in yellow" and is in some ways a better game.

Desert Rats' choice of battle sadly misses out O'Connor and starts with Rommel's first appearance in March 1941. It then offers the short, doomed, Battleaxe offensive (a good way to learn the game), Crusader, and Gazala. Oddly, it then jumps to Second Alamein, although its scale and mechanisms are not really suitable for this battle.

Intelligence is limited to showing the position of enemy units but not their composition, but completely hidden movement is not possible. The order-then-move system makes this a very good two player game, but as an opponent this program isn't even Montgomery. It defends well but is vulnerable to encirclement and will not initiate attacks. The British can win at Gazala, for instance, by doing absolutely



nothing.

What makes this game outstanding is an extremely realistic command and control system, which does not prevent stupid actions but simply serves the player up with their result. Orders can be given to a division either as a body or broken down into brigades and regiments, so both concentration and dispersion are possible. But anyone who disperses his forces too much will find them being over-run. Similarly, failure to keep the elements of one Corps together in a reasonable way results in their running out of supplies at embarrassing moments.

Desert Rats gives a real command-in-chief's view of the desert war. It comes highly recommended by the Royal Tank Regiment. And by me, as well.

- Graphics
- Sound
- Value
- Playability

7
N/A
8
9

CRUSADE IN EUROPE

- Machine: CBM64/Atari/Apple II/IBM
- Supplier: US Gold/Microprose
- Price: £14.95 (disk)

From the designers of highly successful tactical simulators comes a less successful attempt at a strategy game, covering the major campaigns in north-west Europe from D-Day to the end of 1944.

The program is extremely good value, offering scenarios on D-Day to the fall of Paris, on the race to the Rhine, on Market-Garden and on the Battle of the Bulge, each with between two and four variants including the historical option. (For a real test, try defending against the "Hitler's Dream" variant of the Bulge.) The player is offered choices on joystick or keyboard control, icons or symbols, total or limited intelligence of enemy forces and a handicapping system against an unequal opponent.



The graphics are beautifully drawn, with the screen changing colour three times a day for dawn, half-light and dark, and supply trucks rushing down major roads to reach the front line units.

The playing mechanism has, however, several shortcomings. The player, in the position of commander-in-chief, issues orders directly to each division or brigade in continuous accelerated real-time of thirty minute segments. This is not very realistic. Having no intermediate command means that divisions often get very jumbled, while with up to forty units to control simultaneously it is easy to forget something. Also, since it takes about twelve hours from the ordering of an attack to its taking place, most of the playing "day" is spent doing nothing. From D-Day I took Paris in two campaign months (one month faster than the real Allies), but it took eleven playing hours to do and was about as interesting as watching paint dry.

A game for the military purist, backed by a good historical account in the booklet and suggestions for further reading.

- Graphics
- Sound
- Value
- Playability

9
3
9
5

SILENT SERVICE

- Machine: CBM64/Atari/Apple/IBM
- Supplier: US Gold/Microprose
- Price: £14.95 (disk)

From Sid Meier, creator of *F-15 Strike Eagle*, comes a tactical game of US submarines seeking out Japanese shipping in the Pacific in World War Two. This is, in effect, an underwater flight simulator, and it is not an easy game to play. The player becomes a one-man submarine crew, and switching between engine gauges, maps, periscope and bridge takes a little practice. Thoughtfully, the program provides this, allowing you to graduate from mock combats against hulks off Midway Island, through set piece tactical situations to your first combat patrol.

On patrol the simulation is

quite incredibly realistic.

Commanding an attack submarine requires patience, stealth, good anticipation, and a knowledge of when to run away. Submerged, your submarine is no faster than the convoys which are its prey, and soon drains its batteries. But on the surface in daylight it is very easy to spot. Any attack brings the escort destroyers down on your position, and you must evade them to survive. A patrol takes about two playing hours with three or four separate engagements. From your first patrol you will be lucky to return at all.

The heart of the simulation is a plotting map, representing the sub's radar, sonar and lookout reports. This enables the player to "zoom" in and out from smaller to larger scales and so plan his attack as he goes. Once close to the target a periscope

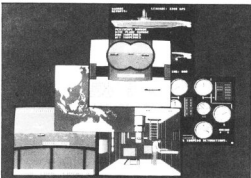
screen provides identification and location of targets. Fire your torpedoes, then don't stop to watch them hit but dive and turn away. You will hear the explosions if you are lucky, along with the Asdic of the approaching destroyers and the crunch of their depth charges. All that is missing is the smell.

An excellent wargame for

those who place realism and tactics above thrills and firepower. The booklet also provides a good summary of the history and technical details of the campaign.

- Graphics
- Sound
- Value
- Playability

9
7
9
6



TIGERS IN THE SNOW KNIGHTS OF THE DESERT

- Machine: CBM64/Atari
- Supplier: US Gold
- Price: £9.95 (tape)
- £14.95 (disk)
- Machine: CBM64/Atari
- Supplier: US Gold
- Price: £9.95 (tape)
- £14.95 (disk)

These two games are reviewed together as they are a very special case. One is based notionally on the Battle of the Bulge, the other on the Desert War. But neither is, or pretends to be, a wargame. Rather, they are computer reproductions of board games about war, which is not the same thing.

The board game mechanisms, established by firms such as Avalon Hill and SPI, of hex-grids, zones of control, combat points and movement phases, are here simply transferred to the computer screen.

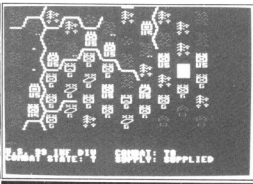
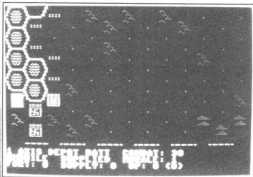
The program moves the units by hex, and rolls the dice, while the rule booklet provides the player with complete rules as if

for an ordinary board game. The player is told on each move the movement and combat value, in terms of points, of his own and the enemy's units, and is required only to make yes/no decisions as to which units are to attack and move. The whole program, on both games, cycles at the slow pace of a board game as well. *Tigers in the Snow* can be played by one or two players, *Knights of the Desert* by two players, or by a single player as Axis forces only against the computer as the Allies.

These are both by no means bad games, any more than *Monopoly* is bad for failing to simulate realistic business and property speculation.

- Graphics
- Sound
- Value
- Playability
- Graphics
- Sound
- Value
- Playability

5
0
5
6
5
0
5
6



WAR GAME NEWS



■ In an effort to promote international understanding and harmony, **MicroProse**, the US wargames and Simulation Software House, is to update the section of **F-15 Strike Eagle** which deals with a raid on Libya.

The purpose, says MicroProse, is to document some of the key events in the April 14, 1986 US air strike against Libya. The factsheet will provide background information and an updated map, along with suggestions on how to use various parts of the F-15 program's seven missions to gain insight into the recent raid. The software program itself remains unchanged.

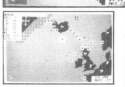
"Ever since the US/Libya conflict heated up earlier this year, F-15 Strike Eagle and its Libyan scenario have aroused intense interest from the public and the media," says marketing director, Fred Schmidt.

Bill Stealey, MicroProse's president, who also is a former jet fighter pilot and a US Air Force Academy graduate, adds: "The April 14th raid is historically significant and coincidentally bears an uncanny similarity to many components of F-15 Strike Eagle's Libyan mission. We felt it would be useful to pass along this information to our customers so they can use the F-15 software to better understand the experience of a US military pilot on that day."

■ **Bismark**, which deals with the hunting and eventual sinking of the German Battleship by the Royal Navy in May 1941, is due out soon from PSS on the Commodore 64, price £9.95 on cassette and £14.95 on disc.

Alan Steel the senior Wargames designer at PSS, says: "The action was essentially one of hide and seek, and illustrates perfectly the Fog of War where neither side is clear about its enemies position or forces. It also reflects problems not normally seen in conventional wargames of limited fuel supplies, weather forecasts, admiralty interference and both the advantages and disadvantages of air reconnaissance."

The player will be able to command either the Royal Navy or the Bismark in the simulation, and can either play the whole action or one of a section of "set battles" between specified ships.



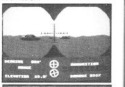
■ Also due for release from PSS is **Tobruk** on the Amstrad, price £9.95 on cassette and £14.95 on disc.

Tobruk is a simulation of the breaching of the Gazala line by the Axis forces in June 1942.

The part of Tobruk was crucial in the North African campaign as a major supply route. If the Allies lost control of the port all supplies would have to come via Alexandria some 500 miles eastwards in Egypt. By taking Tobruk, Rommel effectively forced the Allies back into Egypt, the only country left in Allied control throughout the Mediterranean.

The player can command either the Allies (British, New Zealand, Australians, South Africans and Free French) or the Axis forces (Germans and Italians), the computer commanding the opposition.

If playing the Axis (attacking), the objective is to gain control of the six towns featured on the map, culminating with Tobruk itself. The Allied commander will obviously be trying to keep control of the towns and force the enemy into submission.



ocean

ULTIMATE
PLAY THE GAME



They sold a

MILLION

4

MONSTER
HITS IN

1

GIANT
PACK

THE
hit
SQUAD
*STRIKES
AGAIN*

ALL THESE
BLOCKBUSTERS
TOGETHER ON ONE
**GIANT
COMPILATION**

SPECTRUM £9.95

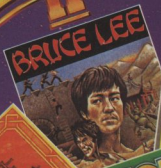
AMSTRAD £9.95

COMMODORE 64 £9.95

DISC £14.95

[COMMODORE and AMSTRAD]

Stocked at Selected Branches of
W.H. Smith, Boots, John Menzies
Woolworth, Greens, Laskys and Rumbelows



from...
MORE FOR LESS



6 CENTRAL STREET, MANCHESTER M2 5NS TELEPHONE: 061-832 6633 TELEX: 669977

What is a play by mail game? Well, it's like an adventure but played by loads of people at once. And you don't need a computer — just a pile of envelopes and some first class stamps. BRENDON KAVANAGH is a PBM addict and here he brings you the lowdown on the best games around.

A Play By Mail game is a multiplayer fantasy played by post. The player sends his orders for his game position to the Game Moderator (GM).

The GM then processes those orders by hand, computer, or a mixture of the two and sends the result back to the player who then decides his next orders, and so on. The main difference between this and a normal computer adventure is that the player's results depend upon the actions of other players as well as his own orders.

In PBM gaming you not only play the game but also engage in a spot of diplomacy. Players exchange game related letters making or breaking alliances, and so on. In my opinion, the diplomacy going on behind the scenes is often as enjoyable as the game itself! There is quite an art in what each category work, feeding people false information in exchange for true, and generally manipulating the other players to suit yourself.

There are about 30 games available, all fitting roughly into one or more of five main categories: Science Fiction, Strategic, Tribal, Role Playing and Logical. To give you some idea of what each category is about, I will look at five popular games that were represented at the First British PBM Convention held in London during February this year.

STARGLOBE

StarGlobe, run by a company called Time Patterns, is a science fiction

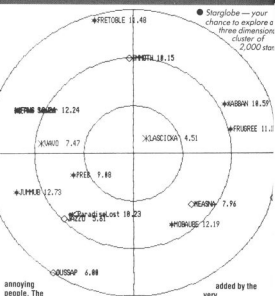
game in which you captain a starship in a three dimensional cluster of 2,000 random stars. It is an open ended game with no fixed deadlines for orders. Moves are processed nearly every postal day, so you can play as often or rarely as you like.

The basic game scenario is that your homestar, Monde, which is located at the centre of the spherical cluster — radius 50 light years — has acquired interstellar travel. The autocratic government, The Company, led by the paranoid Lord of Monde, fears surprise alien invasion and thus seeks to explore and claim the stars of the cluster.

To do this, an exploration programme has begun. Many starships are being launched with orders to set up a base on the edge of the StarGlobe at a suitable star and to construct a Communications Array for scanning space in search of aliens.

You are launched from Monde on a pre-programmed course to take you to the rim. You do not have to follow your orders. You can choose to fly to the nearby stars and start playing in any of the variety of roles.

The Explorer seeks out new stars and planets. The disloyal Pirate flies from star to star plundering colonies, destroying claims, firing on peaceful starships and generally



annoying people. The Empire Builder finds himself a group of stars, claims them and colonises their planets and administers his Empire while protecting it from footloose Pirates. Merchants trade in all sorts of goods — ranging from drugs to advanced weapon systems, depending on what is in demand and what is available.

The Xenobiologist is an expert on alien life. He seeks out alien artifacts, ruins, and often the aliens themselves. Finally, the Bounty Hunter is a loyalist character who attempts to destroy pirate ships for payment.

You don't have to select a role from the start, in fact you don't even have to follow any single role — you can, for example, be both a Pirate and an Empire Builder.

StarGlobe runs on a Sirius I computer, and the software and data takes up an amazing 6½ mega-bytes of storage media! The software obeys the law of relativity, conservation of momentum, etc and there are quite a few complex mathematical problems to be solved if you wish.

StarGlobe is only computer assisted and much atmosphere is

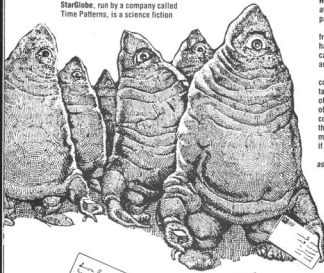
The turn reports are very impressive, although sometimes marred by bugs in the program.

StarGlobe costs £1.60 per turn to play. Start-up costs £2 and the first printout is free. (Time Patterns, 97 Devonshire Road, Handsworth, Birmingham B20 2PG.)

GLOBAL SUPREMACY

Global Supremacy is a game new to the UK. It has been imported from America and is being run by MitGames using Apple Macintosh. Global Supremacy is, at heart, a war game involving battle strategy, diplomacy, trade, economics and forward planning.

The game is set on post World War III planet Earth. The superpowers have gone, much of the world is radioactive wasteland, and human achievement has had to start all over again. You join the game as one of the 150 remaining nations. All have developed their economy, technology and industrial base to an early World War II level. At the start of the game there are 75 player nations — the others begin as neutral provinces. Since resources



WORLD OF



—your
explore a
dimensional
aster of
0,000 stars.

K 18.59

FREE 11.11

OR

the

to

tr

le

ll

le

ll

and food supplies are finite, war soon breaks out as nations grasp for the surrounding neutral areas and the riches that they contain.

The object of the game is to gain Global Supremacy, to defeat the other players. To do this you must manage your economy, protect your provinces, allocate your limited resources wisely, develop your technology level and be successful in combat.

Global Supremacy is played using a current world atlas — all terrain features exist, as do most of the smaller islands. Only the political map has altered. As you develop your technology level you can research more modern units, provided you've done research into the older units from which the new are derived (eg a missile frigate can only be researched if a missile patrol boat was researched before it).

Combat in Global Supremacy is quite complex and can only occur at cities or when a patrolling unit comes across a potential aggressor. Resolution of combat is done by the GM. He considers such things as unit types (eg a patrol boat has little chance against a destroyer), information available to each side (using radar and, if available, satellite systems), combat preparation orders (the destroyer may have orders to ram the patrol boat without using any weapons) and so on.

Global Supremacy appears to be an exciting game with a lot of scope for interesting play. Sadly, it is an expensive game that could cost between £7 and £17 per month to play, depending on how active you are. If you want to join Global Supremacy then write to Mitre Games, 189 Balham High Road, London SW12 and they will let you know when a vacancy appears. The rulebook can be bought, without joining, for £2.

WORLD OF VENGEANCE

World of Vengeance is a tribal type game. It is a fairly new, human moderated creation, run by Vengeance Games. World of Vengeance is set in Britain in the late twenty-first century, 100 years after a man-made plague practically wiped out civilisation. On the now greener land of Britain groups of humans struggle toward their

personal goals, watched over by the mysterious Dr Vengeance who was once a biochemist but now records the progress of his 'beloved children'.

You, the player, are the leader of a group of your own design which may herd, hunt, fish or farm for a living — it's your choice. You generally set your own aim, a quest for power and knowledge runs parallel to it.

World of Vengeance could be called a poor man's version of Global Supremacy, indeed it is in many ways similar. World of Global Supremacy is played using an Ordnance Survey map of Britain. You manipulate your warriors, civilians, herds of animals, and artifacts as you wish.

World of Vengeance is a very interesting game, played in real time with the real world, and it is proving very popular. It suits imaginative players very well — the more you put in, the more you get out. World of Vengeance is run by Vengeance Games, 6 Rose Farm Fold, Allotments, Normanton, W. Yorks WF6 2NE. The set up and first two turns are free. Each turn thereafter costs £1.50.

SATURNALIA

Saturnalia is a human moderated fantasy role playing game run by Sloth Enterprises. It began in 1984 and has become popular with the fantasy games. The game is played in Saturnalia, a large land mass in the northern hemisphere of a strange world.

The far north is bitterly cold, the south extremely hot. The climate of the lands between the extremes are more hospitable, but the local fauna is not. Saturnalia was once united by the Great Empire but it is now broken into independent groups of states, towns and villages. You are a character from one of these regions.

The Saturnalians are a religious people. Most of them believe in a set of 14 gods and goddesses such as Sahmen, the Sun God, and Haquar, Goddess of Science and Magic. You may decide to follow one of these gods, all of them or none at all. Your choice alters certain conditions within game vents, such as types of magic spells that you can learn.

Your character has six characteristics. They are Combat Ability, Magical Power, Vitality,

Scouting Ability, Perception and Fame.

When you begin a game you are given 250 points which you must distribute among the first five characteristics.

Fame is acquired as you play. The higher the figure the greater your ability at that characteristic. Each move, you are given a further 50 points to distribute among the characteristics to replenish those used up by actions, or to improve your current level.

Saturnalia is run by Sloth Enterprises, PO Box 82, Southampton SO9 7FG. The startup package, rule book and first five turns costs £5. Turns cost £1 each thereafter.

VORCON WARS

Vorcon Wars is one of the most popular and well established PBM games. It is logistical wargame run on an Apple I/II by Vorcon Games. Vorcon Wars is about the cheapest professional game around today. It is set on the planet Vorcon, a circumnavigable world slightly developed and defended by its inhabitants called, surprisingly, Vorcons.

The aim of the game is to conquer the planet, defeating the other 20 or so players. The planet is split evenly into hexes. You have a commander who can move on to any of your own hexes, and a variable number of men who can only move about the area on your private.

There are a number of types of hexes, summarised here. Agricultural developed, mineral

mine, atomic mine, base and city hexes produce a variety of resources on a set basis; sea, swamp, forests, agricultural undeveloped and wasteland hexes are virtually useless; missile silo and rocket site hexes are used to launch nuclear missiles and spy satellites; radioactive, fortified and mined hexes are generally too dangerous to attack.

The game develops well and you usually have about eight turns to establish your defences before running into other players.

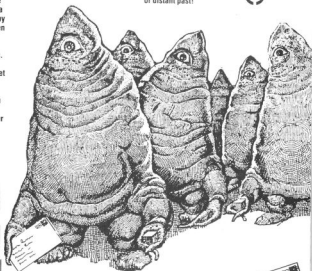
Vorcon Wars is a good introduction to PBMing.

Vorcon Games, 59 Juniper, Birch Hill, Bracknell, Berks RG12 4ZG. £1.50 pays for the startup package and the first three turns. Turns cost £1 each thereafter. Orders are processed once a fortnight.

Play By Mail is an exciting and novel form of interactive gaming. Much cheaper than Play By Modern games like MUD and StarNet, they offer people of all ages an interesting and generally not too expensive fantasy related pastime. If you join a game, don't be put off by the initial complexity of the rules. GMs are usually very helpful and friendly, and will gladly answer any questions you may have. You will find that the game becomes clearer as you play it, anyway. Also, bear in mind that it takes a while to get anywhere in a PBM game. Early turn reports are always a bit sparse and it sometimes takes over five turns for things to become more exciting than bemusing! I look forward to meeting some of you on some far off land in the near future —



VENGEANCE



DO YOU WANT TO BE A HERO?



The result of unique co-operation between three ace software developers and the Biggles film production company, Biggles - The Untold Story will knock you right out of the air! It's a multi-part arcade strategy game in which each part must be completed to reach your final goal.

In the air, on the rooftops, on the ground, or in the trenches

YOU CAN BE A HERO!

Coming in May

Commodore 64
Spectrum 48K

£9.95 tape, £12.95 disk
£9.95 tape

Coming in June

Amstrad CPC

£9.95 tape, £14.95 disk

MIRRORSOFT

Purnell Book Centre, Paulton, Bristol BS18 5LQ

GAMEMAKER VERSUS

As CHRIS PALMER says, there have been programs which promise to turn you into programming genius overnight since the ZX81 first emerged blinking into the light. Here we look at a couple of games programming utilities which may well give you a new insight into creating your very own mega-game. Chris looks at Activision's Gamemaker while IAN DUERDENE looks at Ocean's Laser Basic.

LASER BASIC

GAMEMAKER

- Machine: CBM 64
- Supplier: Activision
- Price: £14.95

Since the start of the home computing boom there have been programs which purported to turn innocent users into millionaire game writers overnight.

Naturally, lots of people bought these packages, but unfortunately, we don't seem to be deluged by overnight millionaires.

The reason most of these programs failed is two-fold. Firstly they were usually very restrictive in what they let you actually program. You would get the option of writing a shoot-em-up or a shoot-em-down and maybe, for variety, a shoot-em- sideways. Great if you like shoot-em-ups.

Secondly — and more commonly — the programs were just higher level programming languages which meant our would-be millionaires were left struggling long into the night trying to understand the logic behind reverse polish notation.

Or even how an IF... THEN... PERHAPS... MAYBE statement applies to the task of exploding a space invader.

And so we reach the present day and Activision's Gamemaker. It won't automatically turn your bank balance into a telephone number, but it will give you a lot of relatively painless fun proving that your games are better than the ones you can buy in the shops.

So what is Gamemaker? Basically, it is an easy-to-use programming language that is even closer to English than Basic. What's more, it is enclosed in a neat window environment in which all you have to do is point at what you want with a joystick controlled cursor.

As if this isn't enough, it incorporates four sub programs which enable you to design sprites, draw backgrounds, compose music and create sound effects.

For good measure there is a library of goodies created using the above for those of us too lazy to push a pixel or tweak a tone generator.

There are limits to what sort of programs you can write using Gamemaker. For instance, if you want to write an adventure, or something that has a scrolling background, forget it. Apart from that, the only limits are your own ingenuity.

Worth bearing in mind is that Gamemaker is at heart a programming system, although the author, Gary Kitchen, has tried to make using it as simple as possible.

For the rest of this review, I will take you through the different parts of Gamemaker.

Editor

This is the business end of the program, where you create the list of instructions for what will be your game. At the top of the screen is a message window where Gamemaker talks to you and you can keep track of how much memory you have free.

Directly below this you have a pull-down window in which is displayed all the available commands for you to use in your program.

By using an up and down arrow, the commands, which are listed alphabetically, can be brought into view and used. To transfer a command to the program area below the command

window, you simply have to point at the command you want and press the fire button.

The command is then added to your program. Any variables used in the command needs the name of a file on the disc. It simply pulls the appropriate filenames off the disc and displays them in the correct place in the command.

When you get to the one you want, you just select it with the fire button. In fact, the only time you have to touch the keyboard is if you want to type in a comment or name a file when saving it.

This does make for a very relaxed attitude to programming as you can lean back in your chair, bed, sofa and create a game by merely moving a few fingers on one hand!

Down the right side of the screen are a list of options which let you run, edit or store your game. It also lets you into the main menu, so that you can load the other parts of Gamemaker.

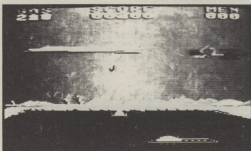
Editing and debugging your game is also made easy. You can set up a trace on a certain variable and alter the speed at which the program runs. Once you hunt down the bug, all you have to do is point at the errant part of the command and press the fire button. Then wiggle the joystick until it looks right.

I must admit that the ease of editing does tend to make you sloppy in the way you program. You find yourself throwing any old value into a program and tweaking it later, rather than thinking about the right value to start with.

Among the example programs supplied in the library are *Futball* and *Megaman*. Both of which play reasonably faithfully to the real thing. It almost makes you wonder why you parted with your hard earned cash for the originals, if they were that easy to do!

One of the nicest things about the editor is its sprite handling. For instance, if you wanted an animated sprite to fly across the screen at 45 degrees and report if it bumped into another sprite, you simply program the following:

The x and y position where it starts, the direction you want it to go in, the speed at which you want it to travel, the speed which it animates and what other



sprites to look out for along the way.

When you've completed and debugged your program you can either file it away for your own amusement or make a self-running disc (or tape) to send to your friends or enemies, which they can play even if they haven't got Gamenaker themselves.

You can get up to some quite complex program structures if you want, as Gamenaker will let you write subroutines and look-up tables, along with setting up IF... THEN... OTHERWISE conditions.

In operation, Gamenaker held its own very well. Some of the sprite movements were sometimes a little jerky, but this could often be cleared up by paying a little bit more attention to how the program was running.

A couple of points I didn't like about using the editor were that you can only have two backgrounds (one on the tape version) in our game. The other was that although you could print characters to the screen, you couldn't define them, which means you're stuck with a limited and rather boring selection.

SpriteMaker

A fairly standard sprite editor this. The edit square on the left of the screen blows a sprite up into every pixel in the size of a character square. Bottom right is a window which displays the sprite, proper size. Above that a window containing the edit commands.

SpriteMaker will handle multicolour as well as single colour sprites and will also allow to stretch them on both the X and the Y axis should the fancy take you. Flipping the sprites and shifting it within its own boundaries are also catered for.

When it comes to animating the sprite, you can use up to 31 frames and there is also a thoughtfully included copy command that saves you a lot of redrawing. You can run the animation from within SpriteMaker and check that it looks all right.

SceneMaker

Here is where you create the backgrounds over which all the action in your game will take place. Things start getting a little restrictive here. Firstly, you are only allowed to use four colours, including the background colour. So anyone wanting to set a game against a Turner or Picasso background better think again.

The drawing commands are simple, yet adequate. Lines, circles, fills and boxes. You also get a copy and a zoom command to help things along.

The most irritating part about using the SceneMaker is that you can only see half of the screen at any one time. If you want to draw on the other half, you have to scroll it down into view, or use the view command to display the entire screen.

Conclusion

I found I had a lot of fun using Gamenaker and was quite surprised at how quickly I could get something quite professional looking up and running on the screen. Like any package of this sort, it does take some time to get used to, so don't expect to have your own version of Elite running the first time you use it.

I think that anyone with a Commodore and an interest in games will get a lot out of it, even beginner programmers who could use it to knock up demos quickly to see how they feel.

In all, a well thought out and presented product. By the way, if it does make you a millionaire, remember who told you about it!

EXAMPLE PROGRAM

This is a very simple program which should give you an idea of how easy it is to write games using Gamenaker. In it a spaceship flies from left to right across the screen, gradually descending. The player can move a laser across the bottom and fire bolts up at the spaceship. For every bolt that is fired and misses, the spaceship speeds up.

```

/ ZAP-EM BY CHRIS PALMER /
SPRITE 1 IS BASE
DRAW 2 COLOR 1 *CHN
SPRITE 2 IS EXPLO
SPRITE 3 IS LASER
SPRITE 4 IS HEADS
TYPE 1 BACKGROUND=BLACK
CLEAR SCENE 1
MOVESHA 4 ANIMATED PLAYS
MOVESHA 4 ANIMATION SPD =300
MOVESHA 2 POSITION =000
MOVESHA 3 POSITION =000
MOVESHA 4 DIR =RDS, 0010
SET X = RDS
MOVESHA 4 MOVEMENT SPEED=11
SET X = 107
DRAW 3 X POSITION =*X
BASE 3 Y POSITION =200
LASER 3 Y POSITION =000
LOOP / START MAIN LOOP
IF JOYSTICK 1 IS LEFT THEN
SET X = X - 005
END IF
IF JOYSTICK 1 IS RIGHT THEN
SET X = X + 005
END IF
IF X > 160 THEN
SET X = 100
END IF
IF X < 000 THEN
SET X = 000
END IF
IF BUTTON 1 IS ON THEN
SET R = *01
SET B = 200
LASER 3 DIR =RDS UP
LASER 3 MOVEMENT SPEED=100
DRAW 2 X POSITION =*X
LASER 3 Y POSITION =*B
END IF
IF LASER 3 HIT MOVESHA 4 THEN
SET C = LASER 3 X POSITION
SET D = LASER 3 Y POSITION
EXPLO 2 ANIMATED ONCE
EXPLO 2 ANIMATION SPD =300
EXPLO 2 X POSITION =*C
EXPLO 2 Y POSITION =*D
CLEAR MOVESHA 4
END IF
SET P = LASER 3 Y POSITION
IF P < 005 THEN
LASER 3 X POSITION =001
LASER 3 Y POSITION =200
LASER 3 MOVEMENT SPEED=000
SET L = 1 + 004
MOVESHA 4 MOVEMENT SPEED=11
END IF

```

```

IF MOVESHA 4 HIT BASE 1 THEN
EXPLO 2 X POSITION =*X
EXPLO 2 Y POSITION =*Y
CLEAR BASE 1
EXPLO 2 ANIMATED ONCE
EXPLO 2 ANIMATION SPD =300
STOP PROGRAM
END IF
BASE 1 X POSITION =*X
LOOP TO LABEL LOOP

```

LASER BASIC

- Machine: Amstrad CPC 464/664/6128; Commodore 64/128; Spectrum 48K/plus
- Supplier: Ocean
- Price: Spectrum (£9.95); C64/128 (£19.95 tape, £24.95 disc); Amstrad (£19.95) tape, £24.95 disc).

The advertising literature for Ocean's Laser Basic claims to "turn your computer into a professional games writing machine for fun and profit." Quite a bold statement to make especially when you consider the number of games on the market for the machines it is written for; namely the Amstrad (464/664/6128), Commodore (64/128) and Spectrum (48K/plus).

The program does come with a proven pedigree though, having been released through Ocean by the people who brought you the much acclaimed utility White Lightning.

The package looks like an oversized video cassette case which contains the manual (which is an attempt to stop piracy has been published black on coloured paper, blue for the Amstrad, red for the Commodore and green for the Spectrum), the cassettes which contain the Laser Basic extension program, sprite generator, demo program, and some already pre-defined sprites. The Amstrad and Commodore versions also have a Sound Generator and sound sprites which are sadly lacking on the Spectrum.

The manuals are concise and have lots of small worked examples to follow. Mind you, in the Amstrad version you get over 200 new commands, over 250 on the Commodore and 100 on the Spectrum.

But don't be put off. It's like any new language, you will find that some of the commands will be used often and for others you will need to refer to the manual.

After all that, what can Laser Basic actually do? I'll take the Amstrad and Spectrum versions first. Laser Basic gives these two machines full sprite manipulation capabilities only dreamed of by the manufacturers. It is possible, of course, using machine code, to program and control sprites but, unless you are fully conversant with 280 mnemonics, this is not an easy task, especially if you wish to control a number of sprites such as those found in programs like Jet Set

Willy and Manic Miner.

After loading the Laser Basic Extension the user can then do a multitude of things with sprites, these include moving them in any direction on the screen, up, down, forwards, backwards, behind or in front of other sprites, and you can move them along pre-determined paths. You can also detect collisions, expand, shrink, rotate, inverse and duplicate sprites without corrupting any other data. Other commands enable you to window or change the colours of the sprite of your choice, using up to 255 sprites at any one time.

Mindboggling!

Not only that, the program has its very own interrupt facility for even another graphics.

The sound capability of the Amstrad is fairly well known but even here the capabilities of the machine are enhanced by the addition of commands not only to make the beeps and boops normally associated with games but the complex tones you may have had difficulty with previously. You can even assign a particular sound to a particular sprite character.

The Commodore version is a little different to the other two reviewed because of two main reasons — Commodore's poor basic and it already has a hardware sprite facility.

So Laser Basic for the machine couldn't just extend its interpreter for sprite manipulation but an extended Basic as well which gives the 64 some of the capabilities of other machines.

The program not only allows the user to control software sprites in a similar manner to those of the other two machines but also includes a variety of commands for manipulating the hardware sprites as well. When you consider the amount of time, space and effort needed using the poke statement, the package is nearly worth while for that alone. Again, the sound capabilities are dealt with in a similar vein to those of the Amstrad.

The only real criticism of Laser Basic is the fact that it needs to be resident in the machine to run any programs written using it, although Ocean have released a Laser Basic Compiler for the Commodore and Spectrum (the Amstrad version is not completed yet) which allows you to compile your Laser Basic programs and run them without the main program. This is of course an extra program, but you can market any game without paying any royalties to Ocean. Nice idea.

When you consider the cost of the present day games for the above machines, Laser Basic must be real value for money. I've had as much, if not more, fun with it than many of the games I've come across lately. If you have any doubts about buying the package ask the shop to load the Demo program for you then stand back and enjoy the show. I'm sure you will be as impressed as I was.

BARGAIN SOFTWARE:

Dept. C+VG2, Unit 1; 1 Esmond Road; London W.4. 1BR

BUY BY PHONE
RING 01-995 2763

PRICE PROMISE

If you wish to purchase any product from our list and find that you can buy the same product cheaper from another mail order company, simply enclose the lower amount, stating the name of the other company and where you saw the advert. (It must be a current issue). Price Promise does not apply to other companies "Special Offers".

ORDERS OVER £30 DEDUCT 10%

	REC. PRICE	OUR PRICE
THE PLANETS	9.95	7.45
SAI COMBAT	9.95	5.20
GREEN BERET	7.95	5.90
BOMB JACK	7.95	5.90
PAPER BOY	7.95	5.90
EMPIRE	9.95	7.40
THE PAIN	9.95	7.40
SUPERBOWL	9.95	7.40
SKYFOL	9.95	6.70
BOUNCERS	9.95	7.40
V	7.95	5.90
PING PONG	7.95	5.90
SHOWJUMPING	9.95	7.40
UNIFORM FORCE	9.95	7.40
SIR FRED	9.95	7.40
BATTLE OF THE PLANETS	7.95	7.40
CORNAWY	7.95	5.90
BARRY MCGUIAN'S BOXING	7.95	5.90
LORD OF THE RINGS	15.95	11.90
THINK	7.95	5.90
THREE WEEKS IN PARADISE	7.95	7.40
TURBO ESPRIT	9.95	6.70
YE AN KUNG FU	7.95	5.90
ROLLER COASTER	9.95	5.20
SWEDVO'S WORLD	7.95	5.90
SANDSTORM	8.95	6.70
COSMIC WARRIOR	7.95	5.90
GUNFIGHT	9.95	7.40
TOMAHAWK	9.95	7.40
MOVIE	7.95	5.90
ROCK N' WRESTLE	8.95	6.70
TRANSFORMERS	7.95	5.90
WINTER GAMES	7.95	5.90
GLADIATOR	7.95	5.90
TWISTER	7.50	4.45
FRIDAY 13th	6.95	6.70
MILKIE	7.95	5.90
ELITE	14.95	11.20
BACK TO THE FUTURE	9.95	7.45
WEST BANK	7.95	5.90
N.D.M.A.D.	7.95	5.90
HANDS	7.95	5.90
TAU CETI	9.95	7.45
BACK TO SUNDOL	9.95	7.45
ROBIN OF THE WOOD	9.95	7.45
LEGEND OF THE AMAZON WOMEN	7.95	5.90
CYBERGUN	8.95	6.70
ZODIAC	7.45	5.90
BALL BLASTER	7.95	5.90
BLADE RUNNER	8.95	6.70
ZORRO	7.95	5.90
THE GOOMES	7.95	5.90
STANGSHIRE 8	7.95	5.90
HUNCHBACK THE ADVENTURE	7.95	5.90
AGE OF YETI	7.95	7.45
RUNESTONE	7.95	5.90
WAY OF THE TIGER	7.95	7.45
BALLBLAZER	7.95	7.45
PRICE OF MAGIC	9.95	7.45
SPINDRIFT	9.95	7.45
SPLITTING IMAGES	9.95	5.90
ROUNTY BOB STRIKES BACK	7.95	5.90

COMPILATIONS

THEY SOLD A MILLION!!

BRUCE LEE
KNIGHTLORE
MATCH POINT
MATCH DAY

REC. PRICE

OUR PRICE

9.95 7.45

ARCADE HALL OF FAME

RADI!
BLUE MAX
ROCCO
FLAK
HUNCHBACK II

9.95 7.45

SPORTS PACK

SNOKER
ON THE OCE
WORLD CUP FOOTBALL
OLYMPICS (14 events)
GOLF
DERBY DAY

35.95 5.99

COMPUTER HITS II

CODE NAME MAT II
WIZARDS LAIR
TECHNICAL TID
MUTANT MONTY
SNOKER
ANDRICH II
ON THE RUN
CODE
SUPER PIPELINE 2
CIRCUS

9.95 7.45

HOT SHOTS

CHICKEN WING
FIGHTING WARRIOR
SHADOWWIRE
CYRON

9.95 7.45

NEW GAMES 2

CHUCKIE EGG 2
AIRWOLF
TIR NA NOG
WORLD CUP
CAULDRON

9.95 6.70

REC. PRICE

OUR PRICE

9.95 7.45

9.95 7.45

9.95 7.45

9.95 7.45

9.95 7.45

9.95 7.45

9.95 7.45

9.95 7.45

9.95 7.45

9.95 7.45

9.95 7.45

9.95 7.45

9.95 7.45

9.95 7.45

9.95 7.45

9.95 7.45

9.95 7.45

9.95 7.45

9.95 7.45

9.95 7.45

9.95 7.45

9.95 7.45

9.95 7.45

9.95 7.45

9.95 7.45

9.95 7.45

9.95 7.45

9.95 7.45

9.95 7.45

9.95 7.45

9.95 7.45

9.95 7.45

9.95 7.45

9.95 7.45

9.95 7.45

9.95 7.45

9.95 7.45

9.95 7.45

9.95 7.45

9.95 7.45

9.95 7.45

9.95 7.45

9.95 7.45

9.95 7.45

9.95 7.45

9.95 7.45

9.95 7.45

9.95 7.45

9.95 7.45

9.95 7.45

9.95 7.45

9.95 7.45

9.95 7.45

9.95 7.45

9.95 7.45

9.95 7.45

9.95 7.45

9.95 7.45

9.95 7.45

9.95 7.45

9.95 7.45

9.95 7.45

9.95 7.45

9.95 7.45

9.95 7.45

SPECTRUM SPECIAL OFFERS

VIEW TO A KILL

10.99 3.99

GREMLINS

9.95 3.99

CODE NAME MAT II

8.95 3.99

ALIEN

9.95 3.99

GREAT SPACE RACE

14.95 4.99

VALUABLE

14.95 3.99

EUREKA

14.95 3.99

DEATH STAR

7.95 2.45

POLE POSITION

7.95 6.70

9.95 6.70

9.95 6.70

9.95 6.70

9.95 6.70

9.95 6.70

9.95 6.70

9.95 6.70

9.95 6.70

9.95 6.70

9.95 6.70

9.95 6.70

9.95 6.70

9.95 6.70

9.95 6.70

9.95 6.70

9.95 6.70

9.95 6.70

9.95 6.70

9.95 6.70

9.95 6.70

9.95 6.70

9.95 6.70

9.95 6.70

9.95 6.70

9.95 6.70

9.95 6.70

9.95 6.70

9.95 6.70

9.95 6.70

9.95 6.70

9.95 6.70

9.95 6.70

9.95 6.70

BARGAIN SOFTWARE ORDER FORM

Please send me the following titles. BLOCK capitals please!

Type of computer

Name

Title:—

Amount

Address

Total Enclosed £

Tel. No.

Please make cheques or postal orders payable to **BARGAIN SOFTWARE.**

Prices include P&P within the U.K. Europe please add £0.75 per tape;

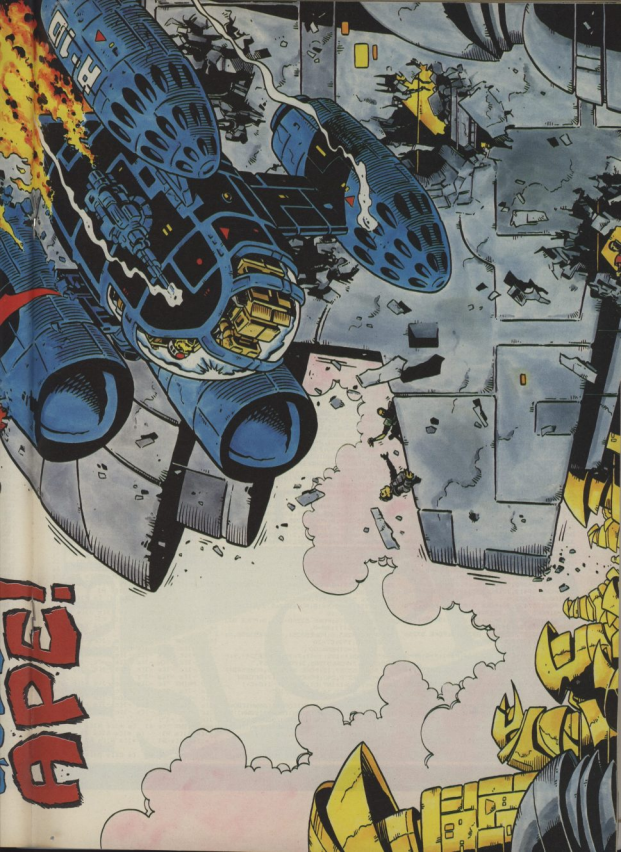
Elsewhere please add £1.00 extra per tape

VISIT OUR SHOP
41/42A Chiswick
High Road
London W4

COMPUTER
+VIDEO
GAMES

RED
GOES!





AP!

Does your micro answer back?

- Does your micro chat to 70,000 people across the UK?
- Can your micro interview pop stars, hackers and doyennes of the computer industry?
- Can your micro provide the answer to your technical and software problems?
- Could your micro send and receive telex's worldwide?
- Does your micro do your shopping for you—and have it delivered to your door?
- Is your micro an answering machine, delivering your private mail whenever you log-on?

NO?Shame!

Bring your micro to life!

***Micronet
800-***

Micronet 800
8 Herbal Hill, London EC1R 5EJ
Telephone: 01-278 3143

To: Micronet 800, 8 Herbal Hill, London EC1

Please send me a brochure on Micronet 800

Name _____

Address _____

_____ Telephone No. _____

Age _____ Micro _____

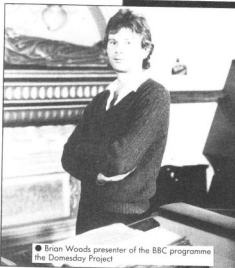
CVG July '86

DOMESDAY



This year is the 900th anniversary of William the Conqueror's Domesday Book, a survey of England carried out in 1085-86. Coinciding with the celebrations will be the creation of a new high-tech Domesday Book using microcomputers and videodiscs. It is one of the most ambitious and exciting historical projects ever undertaken.

C+VG decided to take a look at the new Domesday Project and how the past, present, computers and the latest technology will be combined to provide a unique document of present day Britain.



● Brian Woods presenter of the BBC programme the Domesday Project

Picture this: a complete and detailed view of life in Britain captured on two interactive videodiscs. This vast amount of information is available at the touch of a computer keyboard.

You start with an Ordnance Survey map of the United Kingdom being called up on a monitor. County boundaries and administrative areas can all be seen.

By moving a cursor you can concentrate on any part of the country and zoom in to a larger scale map. Facts, figures and pictures relating to that specific area can be called up instantly.

Another zoom calls up 4 km by 3 km areas. Churches and farms become distinguishable. Local information and photographs can be accessed.

This is the vision which will become a reality this autumn with the completion of BBC Television's Domesday Project.

The two Domesday discs will offer a million search displays including 60,000 photographs, more than 25,000 maps. Information has been collected from most national sources and a huge amount of local facts and figures has been amassed by more than 15,000 schools and organisations.

The scope is breathtaking and the technical challenge is no less impressive.

When the BBC launched the Domesday Project it decided—obviously—to use the BBC micro. But there was no off-the-shelf information handling software which could have coped with the vast amount of information. There was also no videodisc player available to cope with the proposed system of images and data.

Specifications for a new type of videodisc player were agreed with Philips Electronics. The new player has the ability to store data using compact disc technology in the audio channel and can overlay graphics using video circuitry.

The original Domesday Book consists of two volumes compiled in 1085-86 on the orders of William the Conqueror.

One covers Essex, Norfolk and Suffolk, the other the rest of England. The aim was to register all taxable land. It assessed a holding's annual value to establish a true "Geld" or Tax.

A by-product of this tax survey was a fascinating—although by no means complete—look at the life of England in the Middle Ages.

COMPETITION

How would you like to become a part of history? Just imagine, your words, thoughts and views on your world in the summer of 1986 preserved for the future.

Yes, that's the chance we're offering if you can win a place in the Computer+ Video Games Time Vault, which will eventually be sealed with strict instructions not to be opened for 50 years.

So what do you have to do? First we want you to write about yourself and your life, hobbies, school, views on the world etc. The best ones will go into the vault. Send a photograph of yourself as well.

We also want you to suggest some items which should go into the vault which will be of interest to future generations. For instance, your favourite computer game, or Lesly Walker's false teeth, or even Paul Boughton's old Toyota!

And of course copies of Computer+ Video Games will go in the vault.

If you want to get a place in the C+VG Time Vault, send your entry, together with the coupon printed below, to Computer+ Video Games Time Vault, Priory Court, 30-32 Farringdon Lane, London EC1R 3AU.

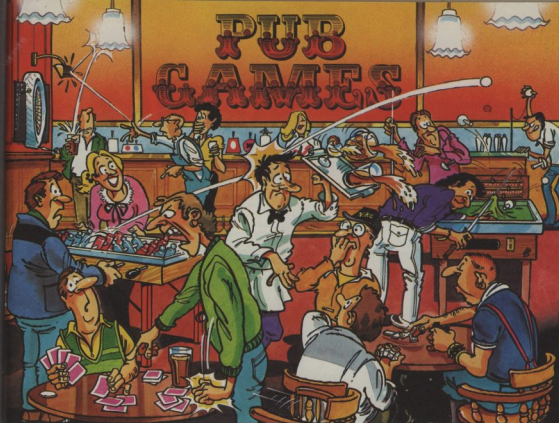
C+VG TIME VAULT

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

Age _____





**AND THEY CALL THEMSELVES
ADULTS!!!**

The times they've left you at home because 'you're not grown up' or 'not old enough to come to the pub' and look what they get up to when they get there! Here's your chance to find out what it's really like in those smoke filled haunts of adulthood. The opportunity to see how good you are at these ADULT?? games. Why let the mums and dads have all the fun. Pub Games can be a laugh for everyone.



PUB GAMES

a compilation of
**BAR BILLIARDS · DOMINOES
DARTS · TABLE FOOTBALL
POKER & PONTOON
BAR SKITTLES**

£9.95

available on

Commodore 64/128 • Spectrum 48K • Amstrad
Available soon BBC • MSX

Alligata Software Ltd., 1 Orange Street,
Sheffield S1 4DW.
Tel: (0742) 755796



ALLIGATA BITES BACK

ALLIGATA BITES BACK

ALLIGATA BITES BACK

ALLIGATA BITES BACK

ALLIGATA BITES BACK

ALLIGATA BITES BACK

ALLIGATA BITES BACK

ALLIGATA BITES BACK

The CN Tower in Toronto, Canada, is the largest free-standing structure in the world. You look up at it and say, "So what. Big deal. Who cares?" But there's more to this needle in the sky than meets the eye. Step inside and you can go on a Tour Of The Universe! C.V.G.'s Stateside correspondent Marshal M. Rosenthal reports on the trip of a lifetime.

TOUR OF THE

Purchasing a ticket to visit Jupiter seems a bargain, only \$7.00! The STARTOUR IDENT is plastic, with holographic writing that seem to pop off the surface.

There is also a magnetic strip which has been encoded with my name (talk about Big Brother). The attendant places the ticket in a

slot into the glowing slot.

An overhead light then comes on as the voice states that my height and weight are now being recorded. Additionally, my psycho-spiritual state is also being viewed.

A monitor glows, displaying my face swathed in a myriad of pastel colours. The voice returns and informs me that I may pass into the main concourse. The holding bar swings away and I walk through.

Airports have come a long way since my time. There are a variety of exhibits that include, among others, Milestones in the Conquest of Space.

There are also displays of computers, strange devices from other galaxies, as well as a hodgepodge of space paraphernalia.

Most impressive of all is the Multivision screen. This occupies an entire wall and is made up of 64 colour monitors. They can work together as a grid to display a single image, or segment a variety of visuals

young woman in a lab coat positions me on a pedestal and inserts my ticket into a wall slot.

I jerk a bit as three ruby lasers converge their beams painlessly on my body. At the same time a zap of ozone, as fine a mist as you could imagine, envelops me from head to toe. That wasn't bad at all!

I walk down the gangway and give another attendant my ticket. He inserts it into a computer, and shortly hands me a paper document containing all of the information about me since I first signed up for the flight.

The document also contains my offworld passport, earpport disembarkation card and visa to Jupiter. I thank him and sit down to await boarding.

At last it's time. The airlock doors open with a hydraulic burst of power, and we walk through a darkened corridor and onto the shuttle.

I sit down in a heavily padded and cushioned flight seat and fasten my seat harness. An attendant checks for any kind of problem and, seeing none, leaves.

The shuttle doors rush together with a loud "thunk". Escape hatchways are within easy sight, but let's hope they won't be needed.

Multi-AT instrument panels and control devices go about their duties mysteriously as we fuel up in our seats.

Two video monitors, one at either edge of the closed front viewscreen, come to life. A representative for CP Air Interplanetary welcomes us aboard.

A moment later, the Captain switches into the monitor and

introduces himself. "Ladies and Gentlemen, Cyborgs and Cloners, we are about to launch, on our way to visit the planet Jupiter."

"You are flying on the new HERMES Class IV MBC Shuttle, which is fully equipped for deep space flight. It also has the revolutionary HELIX catapult mechanism. More about that later."

"Takeoff will be accomplished through the use of magnetic linear attraction, and we hope you enjoy your flight."

The monitors switch to outside camera as the protective covering over the front viewscreen rolls back. We now see the inside of the shuttle launching bay, and there is a hush as our craft begins to move into position for takeoff.

During this short process, we can see various other shuttles awaiting their turn, as well as the huge cavern that houses them.

Our position is secured, and we tilt upward towards the open bay doors. A second later we're rising with a "swosh" akin to a supersonic soap bubble as we flash through the stratosphere and into a flawless earth orbit.

Ahead of us, the stars twinkle and shine as thrusters fire to take us to GATEWAY, the first manned city in space. GATEWAY looms ahead of us, spinning gracefully as it maintains its position relative to the earth.

Our craft is hailed by GATEWAY CONTROL, and we ride to position inside of the Catapult. The Captain comes on to tell us that we will soon be using the HELIX's faster-than-light, nearly



plastic sleeve and loops it around my neck.

I am then allowed to enter the Transflux elevator along with a number of fellow passengers. The lights dim with each shake as we begin our 1500 foot descent below the surface.

An invisible hand seems to give me a gentle push as the head as the elevator groans to a stop, and the doors open onto the year 2019.

A guard clad in black and silver greets us as we queue up before the turnstile of SECURITY SCAN. A digital voice instructs me to insert my ticket

at the same time. Images are displayed about upcoming flights, interesting facts, even adverts.

Our flight number is finally called over the PA system. Passport input prompts me to again insert my ticket and then answer various questions presented on a touch screen.

This information is also sent down into the Central Scrutinizer computer. I then enter the tunnel that leads into the localization area.

I imagine hideous white-garbed fiends spraying me with feel fluids in their attempts to dissect my body of earthly garnis. Instead, a pleasant



E UNIVERSE

instantaneous technique to transport us to Jupiter.

The GO signal is given and we pick up speed. The framework of spiral plates blur around us and seem to change into a crazed kaleidoscope of rippling water. Like a roller coaster going down, we move faster and faster. Suddenly, amidst a rush of white noise, the Universe blanks out — and majestic Jupiter blossoms on the horizon.

Our shuttle passes over the landscape from miles up, as we gaze down into the awesome red spectacle of the planet. We move off and skim amidst Callisto, Io and other Jovian moons.

The return trip is uneventful. We once again leave normal space and appear at GATEWAY. Our Captain comes on the intercom and points out landmarks as we are drawn back into the earth's atmosphere, and towards the CN Tower. Landing once again,

don't wish to have your fantasies shattered by the cold truth of high-tech. As you might have guessed, the shuttle trip was not real, but a highly accurate and absorbing simulation that took four years and 10 million dollars to create.

Showscan is the system that creates the illusion of space travel. It was developed by Douglas Trumbull, film director and designer of special effects for such films as 2001: A Space Odyssey, Star Wars and Close Encounters of the Third Kind.

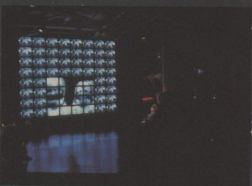
A chinquity accurate film of space and space effects is rear-projected onto the shuttle's forward viewing screen at 60 frames a second. Which is two and a half times faster than normal. This speed has been found to be similar to that of the human eye as it observes the world.

The 70mm large format is combined with a high level of

The machine reels upon a set of hydraulic lifts which move it in the various ways that the craft it is imitating would be like when up in the

domach doesn't think it's just a model!

CP Air Interplanetary plans other trips as well. It journey to



Haley's Comet will be available soon and new planets and galaxies to explore are already under development.

They've even got another shuttle ready to go when the big off-world tourist season starts!

Some of us get nervous just standing on a tall ladder. But if you want to set your sights high without taking a big chance, try Tour Of The Universe.

When not operating his commercial photography studio in New York, Marshall M. Rosenblatt is a journalist for a number of domestic and overseas publications dealing in computers, video and high technology.

the shuttle is returned to the stinging area and we disembark.

Leaving the craft, we pass by a series of huge 3x5 foot holograms extolling the virtues of science and technology.

But what would any spaceport be without a gift shop? The corridor exits into a glittering and exciting world of scientific gifts and gadgets. Not to mention an avalanche of souvenirs. Managing to escape with a few dollars left, I enter another transparent elevator which returns me to 1988.

WARNING: Road no further if you

brightness, and an expanded view which creates the amazing feeling of reality.

It's helped by a four channel digital sound track which emanates from speakers placed strategically around and outside of the shuttle.

The film images are interlinked by computer with the shuttle itself. The shuttle is a motion picture house that flies.

Pilots train on sophisticated devices that imitate actual aircraft. These are called simulators.

Simulators act and react just like the aircraft does in flight.

Computers, of course, control the movements, as well as duplicate the many events which can occur. Flying a simulator is just like the real thing, but you never leave the ground.

TOUR's simulator is designed by IEI Systems and seats 40-45 people. It's been specially adapted to react just like a real space craft.

Forward and lateral movements, as well as such things as pitch, roll and yaw, happen in conjunction with the images onscreen.

Believe me though, when you're power diving towards the earth, your



Heavy on the Magick



CONVERSATIONS
WITH APEX



THE DOUBT OF
RABAK



OLD TROLL!



BEFORE THE GATES
OF WOLFDRP



BEWARE OF THE
WEREWOLF!



MAGOT
THE PRINCE



SCREEN SHOTS FROM
THE SPECTRUM VERSION



From **GARGOYLE**
~the **GAMEMASTERS**

SPECTRUM 48/128K

(AVAILABLE NOW)

AMSTRAD

(AVAILABLE MAY 1984)

CBM 64/128

(AVAILABLE SOON)

£9.95

GARGOYLE GAMES LTD., 74 KING STREET, DUDLEY, WEST MIDLANDS DY2 8QB
Telephone: (Sales) 0384 238777 (General) 0384 237222



TEAM GOLA



Good day, sport. Meet Team Gola, three nameless space kids and their equally nameless robot.

They're the stars of this simply sensational C+VG summer competition. And the prizes? Well, they're in the bag. We've got 25 metallic Team Gola sports bags to give away. Besides sports gear, they are ideal for school books or holiday gear. Team Gola will feature on a new range of sports gear this summer from Gola. There is even talk of the team featuring in a computer game.

What we want you to do is create a comic strip adventure storyboard for Team Gola. This is your chance to give your imagination a good work out. You can even create names for the team.

Right. Get ready, get set and go—straight to your pencils, pens and paints for you to help create some new comic strip heroes.

C+VG will also be printing a selection of the best strips in a future issue.

Send your entries together with the printed coupon to C+VG/Team Gola Competition, Priory Court, 30-32 Farringdon Lane, London, EC1R 3AU. The closing date for the competition is July 16th and the editor's decision is final.



C+VG/TEAM GOLA COMPETITION

Name

Address

Age

For most games players, the most important piece of extra equipment they will buy for their micro will be a joystick. In his search for the ultimate joysticks, C+VG's JIM DOUGLAS locked himself in a small, dark room with Uridium and Winter Games. This is his story...

JIM'S J

THE RATINGS EXPLAINED

The sticks featured here have all been graded on a scale of 1-10 in the following categories:

● **Ergonomics:** Design to you, stupid!

Does the stick stay firmly in your hand, or does it wrench itself from your grip at the first sign of an approaching nasty? Do those buttons take the superhuman hammering dealt out when you're dealing with a squadron of Uridium fighters?

● **Strength:** At the end of your record-breaking effort, is the machinery still in working order?

● **Accuracy:** A pretty vital rating this. The last thing you want to happen as you try to match the rotation of the Elite space-stations is for your joystick to decide it only wants to turn one way, and fire at will!

● **Overall:** Does the stick do the job?

KEMPSTON PRO 5000

The Kempston has reigned as the top games-players' joystick since it first emerged from C&A Controls Limited all those years ago. Despite various gimmicks employed by other firms to make their sticks seem superior, the 5000 seems to have fought all off competition without much bother. Even with few alterations over its relatively long life span the Kempston still remains a favourite with most gamers.

Performance on Uridium:

It performed almost perfectly! The rapid fire needed in the game was admirably supported by the twin fire buttons, neither of which "stuck" or missed a shot. Although there is no definite "switch"ing sound when changing from one direction to another, no problems with accuracy arose at all.

Performance on Winter Games:

Owing to the lack of audible switching, some events became more difficult. In the figure and free skating for example, it is necessary to make a move with extreme precision. The "click" which some sticks produce makes this easier; although it's very easy to correct an error with the Pro 5000. It's also very easy to make a slip.

- Accuracy 8
- Ergonomics 8
- Strength 8
- Overall 8

EUROMAX PRO ACE

The Pro Ace looks utterly tremendous — all black, with a bright red fire button and

direction indicators — but it's awkward to hold, unresponsive and a rather poor show overall!

Performance on Uridium:

I skimmed over the first Drendought's surface, unsuccessfully struggling to hold the blasted thing without partially paralyzing my hand. Firing is very hard work. You've got to push the buttons fairly hard before you get any response. It's very strong — but that's really all I could say for it.

Performance on Winter Games:

This stick seems to perform best when only minor accuracy is required. On the long events, such as speed skating, it works quite well, although it's hard work, owing to the power of the self-centring mechanism. The fire-button was barely adequate.

- Accuracy 4
- Ergonomics 4
- Strength 7
- Overall 5

EUROMAX MICRO ACE

Doesn't this look frightfully similar to the Pro Ace? Hang on! This has got a RED handle, and WHITE directional arrows! It has also got micro switches, which make life a whole lot easier.

Performance on Uridium:

It's still a bit of a nightmare to hold, but is better than the Pro Ace. The switches make play more accurate, and less tiring. Firing is still pretty awful, causing terminal cramp in the reviewer's thumb!

Performance on Winter Games:

Well, it's a bit of an improvement! Movement is easier, and more precise. The firing lets the stick down. On long events, the shape causes considerable discomfort.

- Accuracy 6
- Ergonomics 5
- Strength 7
- Overall 6

VULCAN ELECTRONICS' GUNSHOT

The Gunshot looks like yet another variation on Spectravideo's Quicksheet range. It has the same design style, with one fire button positioned on the base, and another on the shaft. Here, though, the latter sits on top of the handle. Although it offers an effective autofire option, the stick feels a little top-heavy and the rubber feet aren't any real use.

Performance on Uridium:

The autofire option really comes into its own in the game! It will produce a continual stream of fire while you deal with the tricky aspect of steering. Unfortunately, the stick doesn't really have the necessary accuracy to avoid all the meteor shields.

Performance on Winter Games:

The grip is very comfortable, especially when working your way through the tough Biathlon event. The firing wasn't particularly sensitive. It has smooth movement, though, making the long-distances events such as speed-skating quite easy. I'm not sure how much it would

● Euromax Wizard, Pro and Micro Ace



● Kempston and Cheetah



● Euromax



...PROBABLY THE MOST INTERESTING

JOYSTICK JURY!

stand, before the switches become bent away from their contacts.

- Accuracy 6
- Ergonomics 7
- Strength 6
- Overall 7.5

EUROMAX WIZ CARD

"Pah," thinks the standard reviewer as this little mantrously lolls from the packet. Well, yab-yoo sucks to "standard" reviewers, 'cuz this is one of the best "sticks" in the entire universe. So there!

It's around the size of an individual Fruit 'n' Nut chee-bar, allowing—obviously—some extra size for the two fire buttons and directional thingy on top.

Performance on Uridium:

It's wonderfully accurate, and easy to operate. The only problem with using the Wiz Card (so-called because it's a bit like a card, and a "wiz" to use—goddit?) is if you've got used to a standard joystick. Once you've got the hang of the movement, it's a dream to use. You don't need to exert any force to change direction, and it fits easily into the hand. It's really quite good.

Performance on Winter Games:

Wonderful! This one worked with hardly any problems at all. Firing was responsive and trouble-free. Direction changes were precise, too. The only problem arose on long events, where continual direction changes are necessary. It was quite hard to get a comfortable grip. You can't really use one thumb, as you've got to press on different areas of the pivoting button. Using two digits, though is rather awkward!

- Accuracy 9
- Ergonomics 8
- Strength 8
- Overall 9

QUICKSHOT 1

Many regard the QuicksHOT 1 as the turning point in joystick manufacture. It's cheap, simple to use and versatile. Unfortunately it's also a pretty awful joystick.

Performance on Uridium:

Direction changes are ghastly. Firing is cumbersome and stiff. To get any response you need to use a good deal of force. Quite unbearable. Ugh! Take it away!

Performance on Winter Games:

You can hardly call it "performance". It's horrible.

- Accuracy 4
- Ergonomics 5
- Strength 4
- Overall 4

QUICKSHOT 2

Unlucky games players still swear by the QuicksHOT 2. It's lightweight, and efficient. It fits well into the hand, and is comfortable for long-term use.

Performance on Uridium:

This is a bit of an improvement! It's a lot better than the Q-Shot 1. The outside works well, giving a nice, healthy stream of bullets. Movement is still a little on the unresponsive side, causing the user to exert

more force than is actually necessary on the stick. It's possible to be accurate enough to achieve a reasonable score.

Performance on Winter Games:

It's certainly of a higher quality than the QuicksHOT 1. It's easier to use, and the firing is more accurate. Movement isn't much cop, and when you need speed and precision you may as well forget it.

- Accuracy 6
- Ergonomics 6
- Strength 6
- Overall 6

CHEETAH 125

Yet another QuicksHOT clone! It's black, with red buttons, rubber foot and a rather dodgy switch system. This stick has got fire buttons all over it! There are two on the base, a trigger, one on the very top of the shaft and an outside. It's reasonably strong, but is very light, and feels as if it's suffering under the strain of multi-directional zapping!

Performance on Uridium:

Urrgh! These base-mounted buttons are dreadful! Let's try the trigger; not much use either. How about outside? Oh. That doesn't work either. Not doing very well so far, is it, folks?

Playing a passive game of Uridium isn't the easiest—or most sensible—thing in the world. Still, the movement is pretty good. There isn't much resistance to direction-changes, and it's not too hard to avoid the dreadful Q-Shot's static defences.

Performance on Winter Games:

Still rather awful. The firing was slow and inaccurate, and movement lathered with it. It felt strong, though, and held up reasonably well under prolonged play.

- Accuracy 5
- Ergonomics 5
- Strength 6
- Overall 5

QUICKSHOT 7 "THE JOYCARD"

Yeh! Right on! This is the business! Not only do you get a dead switch black card-like object, with an immensely smooth direction-disc in the middle and two fire buttons. BUT... Do-doo! Two red lights to show you when you're firing!

More of these little wonders are appearing on the market all the time, and if this one is anything to go by, they could soon be taking business away from conventional sticks.

Performance on Uridium:

You can hold the button down for outside, or use it as a normal button. And just watch those red lights go! Movement takes a while to get used to, but is responsive, slick and requires minimal user strength! The design means you can use it with one hand, leaving the other free for slurping coffee etc.

- Accuracy 8
- Ergonomics 8
- Strength 8
- Overall 8



● Kempston and Cheetah, again!

● QuicksHOT 1, 2 and 7



JOYSTICK ARTICLE... IN THE WORLD!!

SPINDIZZY COMPETITION

Get yourself into a spin with this gem of a C+VG competition. Precious prizes are up for grabs — thanks to our friends at Electric Dreams.

What are the prizes? Just read on. We've got 50 copies of the dizzily delightful *Spindizzy* to give away. In *Spindizzy* you control a spinning top through a vast number of screens to collect jewels against the clock. Some appear in seemingly inaccessible places. At first it appears impossible to reach them.

Great skill, good judgement and a delicate touch will be needed to conquer this game.

So how can you get your hands on a copy? Printed below are the names of gems all jumbled up. All you have to do is sort out the names. But beware! Because we're a sneaky — although very lovable — bunch of people, some of the jumble words may just be jumble words.

Here they are:

RIIT AMONDED
ZAPTO REBAN
ZAMGOZ IRESAPPH
ZAGTIRE

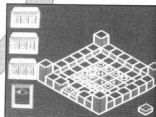
Send your answers together with the printed coupon to Spindizzy Competition, Computer - Video Games, Priory Court, 30-32 Farrington Lane, London, EC1R 3AU.

The closing date is July 16th and the editor's decision is final.

C+VG Electric Dreams
Spindizzy Competition

Name

Address



REDHAWK COMPETITION

Here's your chance to be a super-hero! **Redhawk** — as you probably already know — is the new graphic adventure from Melbourne House. You become Redhawk, and fight wrong-doers the world over.

And we're offering you a chance to get your own spanking new copy of the game, without parting with a single penny!

Yes. It's as easy as this. Just grab a biro, and answer these superbly simple questions on the form below.

The first 50 C64 and Amstrad owners to get the answers right will win a copy. And the first 100 C+VG readers to send a SAE to Melbourne will get a poster, without answering ANY questions! Shazam!

Closing date for the competition is July 16th. Normal C+VG rules apply and the editor's decision is final.

Send your entries to Computer and Video Games, Redhawk Competition, Priory Court, 30-32 Farrington Lane, London EC1R 3AU.

- 1) What substance renders Superman powerless?
- 2) What is Spiderman's job in the real world?
- 3) Where does Judge Dredd live?
- 4) Which TV programme features the Mysterons?
- 5) Which TV programme featured K9?

● The first 100 readers to send an SAE to the following address will receive a FREE poster of Redhawk: C+VG Redhawk Competition, Melbourne House, 60 High Street, Hampton Wick, Kingston upon Thames, Surrey, KT1 4DB.



C+VG/MELBOURNE HOUSE REDHAWK
COMPETITION

Name:

Address:

Computer owned (tick box) C64 ☐ Amstrad ☐

My answers are:

1:

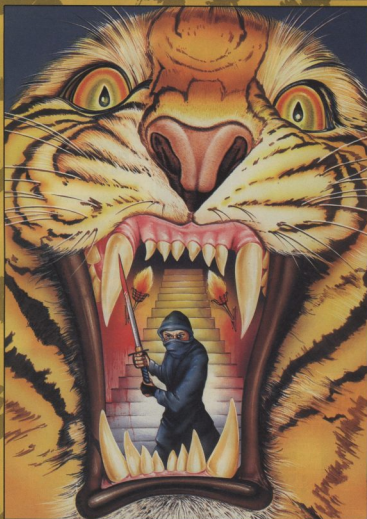
2:

3:

4:

5:

THE WAY OF THE TIGER



Enter the world of Avenger, a Ninja warrior of unparalleled skills and deadly powers, as he battles the forces of evil in defence of his faith and protection of the weak.

Be calm and stay silent as the outstanding animation and unrivalled combat routines take you to levels of action you'd never have thought possible.

Experience the stunning effects of triple scrolling action as you master the techniques of Hand to Hand combat, Pole Fighting and the skills of the Samurai Sword.

And when you believe you've succeeded in overcoming all the odds, the next in this thrilling series of adventures will beckon you forward to a further challenge of death.

Cassette
£9.95

MSX 64K Spectrum 48K Amstrad CBM 64/128

Disc
£14.95

Dreaming Graphics Software Limited, Alpha House, 10 Carver Street, Sheffield S1 4RS. Tel: 0742-753423

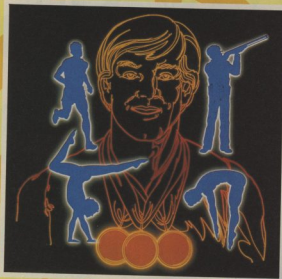


**TRIPLE-SCROLL
TRIPLE-SCROLL**



Screenshots from Spectrum 48K

Sixteen ways to a Golden Summer.



SUMMER GAMES

- OPENING & AWARDS CEREMONY
- POLE VAULT
- DIVING
- 4x400 METRE RELAY
- 100 METRE DASH
- SKEET SHOOTING
- GYMNASTICS
- 100 METRE FREESTYLE
- FREESTYLE RELAY



SUMMER GAMES II



- OPENING & AWARDS CEREMONY & NATIONAL ANTHEMS
- CYCLING
- FENCING
- KAYAKING
- TRIPLE JUMP
- ROWING
- HIGH-JUMP
- JAVELIN
- EQUESTRIAN EVENTS
- 1-8 PLAYERS

'The best sports simulation available for the 64'

- Commodore User

'The sports simulation to end all sports simulations'

- Zap 64

'The graphics are stunning'

- Computer Gamer



Commodore 64

DISK

CASSETTE

£14.95

£9.95

EPYX
COMPUTER SOFTWARE

THE WORLD'S BIGGEST SELLING OLYMPIC SIMULATION

THE SOFTWARE CHART



Hot off the presses is the latest **C + VG Gallup Software Top 30**. It's the most accurate and up to date chart currently published in Britain. Just one look through the latest **C + VG** charts will tell you which top name games are selling the quickest — making it easier for you to choose the shoot-em-up, karate game or boxing program you want. It's a knock-out.



TOP 30 / ALL FORMATS JULY

THIS MONTH	LAST MONTH	GAME	MACHINE	MANUFACTURER	WEEKS IN CHART
1	12	Bomb Jack	SP	Elite	5
2	4	Commando	C16/SP/CO/BB	Elite	22
3	28	V	CO	Ocean	5
4	6	Formula 1 Simulator	SP/CO/AM/BB/EL	Mastertronic	34
5	7	Green Beret	SP	Imagine	5
6	1	Way of the Tiger	SP/AM/MS	Gremlin	6
7	NE	They Sold (2)	SP/AM/CO	Ocean	1
8	15	Last V8	CO/AM	Mastertronic	15
9	NE	Spindizzy	SP/CO/AM/BB/EL	Electric Dreams	1
10	9	Comp. Hits 10 (2)	SP/AM	Beau Jolly	25
11	NE	Batman	SP/AM	Ocean	1
12	NE	Thrust		Firebird	1
13	30	Spellbound		Mastertronic	5
14	3	Superbowl	SP/CO/AM	Ocean	5
15	10	One Man and His Droid	SP/CO/AM/C16/AT	Mastertronic	16
16	16	Turbo Esprit	SP	Durell	7
17	17	Finders Keepers	SP/CO/AM/MS/C16	Mastertronic	36
18	13	Action Biker	SP/CO/C16/AT	Mastertronic	36
19	NE	Starstrike 2	SP/AM	Real Time	1
20	5	Yie Ar Kung Fu	SP/CO/AM/BB/EL	Imagine	22
21	RE	Kik Start	CO	Mastertronic	1
22	NE	Off the Hook		Off the Hook	1
23	11	FA Cup Football	SP/CO/AM	Virgin Games	9
24	NE	Heavy on the Magik	SP	Gargoyles Games	1
25	20	BMX Racers	SP/CO/AM/C16	Mastertronic	36
26	RE	Vegas Jackpot		Mastertronic	1
27	25	Incredible S. Fireman	SP	Mastertronic	8
28	18	Mr Puniverse	C16	Mastertronic	5
29	NE	Sport of Kings	CO/SP	Mastertronic	1
30	24	Winter Olympics	BB/EL/C16	Tynesoft	9

AMSTRAD/TOP 10

1	Spindizzy/Electric Dreams
2	Last V8/Mastertronic
3	Into Oblivion/Mastertronic
4	Get Dexter/PSS
5	They Sold (2)/Hit Squad
6	Commando/Elite
7	Way of the Tiger/Gremlin Graphics
8	Comp. Hits 10 Vol 2/Beau Jolly
9	Turbo Esprit/Durell
10	Formula One Simulator/Mastertronic

MACHINE KEY

SP = SPECTRUM BB = BBC
 CO = COMMODORE 64 AT = ATARI
 AM = AMSTRAD EL = ELECTRON
 C1 = C16 ENT = ENTERPRISE
 V20 = VIC 20 DR = DRAGON

ATARI/TOP 10

1	Last V8/Mastertronic
2	One Man and His Droid/Mastertronic
3	Action Biker/Mastertronic
4	Chimera/Firebird
5	Fighter Pilot/Digital Integration
6	Football Manager/Addictive Games
7	Steve Davis/Snooper/CDS
8	Spy Vs Spy 2/Databyte
9	Yie Ar Kung Fu/Imagine
10	Soul of a Robot/M-Tronic

SPECTRUM/TOP 10

1	Green Beret/Imagine
2	Bomb Jack/Elite
3	V/Ocean
4	Batman/Ocean
5	Way of the Tiger/Gremlin Graphics
6	Starstrike 2/Realtime
7	Heavy on the Magik/Gargoyles Gms
8	Incredible Shrinking Fireman/Mastertronic
9	Sport of Kings/Mastertronic
10	Turbo Esprit/Durell

CBM 64/TOP 10

1	Thruster/Firebird
2	Bomb Jack/Elite
3	V/Ocean
4	Spindizzy/Electric Dreams
5	International Karate/System 3
6	PSI-5 Trading Company/US Gold
7	Uridium/Hewson Consultants
8	They Sold (2)/Hit Squad
9	Superbowl/Ocean
10	Kane/Mastertronic

BBC/TOP 10

1	Commando/Elite
2	Winter Olympics/Tynesoft
3	Karate Combat/Superior
4	Tennis Bug Byte
5	Phantom Combat/Dorsetsoft
6	Comp. Hits 10 Vol 2/Beau Jolly
7	Chadell/Superior
8	Strike Force Harrier/Minorssoft
9	Yie Ar Kung Fu/Imagine
10	Bruce Lee/US Gold

COMPILED BY GALLUP

The first **REAL** computer sport

SurfChamp

The game that teaches you to surf

With its unique custom-built miniature surfboard — which clips over the keyboard — **SurfChamp** gets as close as possible to real surfing. Blasting, aerial cut-backs, going off-the-lip — all the stunts and manoeuvres of the professional surfer are within reach, as the breakers roll in across your TV screen.



"A true simulator... The only thing the package does not supply is 50 million tons of salt water" **Sinclair User**, January 1986. Awarded a **Sinclair User Classic** "A unique challenge" **Computer & Video Games**, February 1986



Come to the regional Surfing Championships

See local and computer press for details

SPECTRUM 48K • £9.95 • COMMODORE 64

New Concepts Ltd, Dublin Street, Carlow, Ireland Tel: (016) 3631

VACATION PROGRAMMERS WANTED!

LEADING SOFTWARE PUBLISHERS MELBOURNE HOUSE

are looking for highly talented programmers capable of producing programmes in their summer vacation, to the very high quality Melbourne House is famous for worldwide.

This is an ideal opportunity to earn credibility for your programming skills with the Software House that produced the 'Programme of the Year 1985'.

You will receive good support from our highly professional team and remuneration typical of a highly successful company.

INTERESTED? UP TO THE CHALLENGE?

For further details call Rachel Davies on (01) 943 3911 or write to
Melbourne House, 60 High Street, Hampton Wick,
Kingston-Upon-Thames, Surrey. KT1 4DB

If you have already any completed programmes up to our standard, please send them too.

ADVENTURE

NEWS

In his penthouse apartment in the IDEAs Central building Keith Campbell, one of the few survivors of the corporate purges which swept through the software industry when the IDEAs Corp was establishing itself, busies himself with an intricate and time consuming task. His job is to collect and collate all the data relevant to adventure games and dispense words of wisdom to people with problems. This month the Adventure Helpline brings much needed help, advice and hints to the troubled and tormented adventure games player.

COMMODORE USER HELPLINE

The Adventure Helpline (TM) is to become a regular feature in Commodore User magazine. CU Editor Eugene Lacey, has reached an agreement with Tim Metcalfe and Keith Campbell, to secure the Helpline as a regular monthly feature in Commodore User. This doesn't mean that C+VG and CU readers will get the same articles each month (I've seen to that Ed). The CU Helpline will have its own identity.

However, all information will be pooled in the same database, giving both sets of readers the benefit of the BIGGEST single source of adventure clues in the UK. There are many C+VG Adventure enthusiasts who write to beg for more pages devoted to Adventure, and complaining that they have to wait a whole month for their next 'fix'. As Commodore User is published between C+VG's monthly appearance, here's your chance to get a "booster" mid-month!

VALKYRIE II ARRIVES

Carpathia, where is it? That is the question asked by many players stuck in Valkyrie II. The answer is: 'You can't get

there in this game. It's in the sequel! Heavy sighs all round.

Three Days In Carpathia is now well under way, and due for release any time between now and the end of the year. It will be the first release from The Ram Jam Corporation created using their newly developed programming aid The Biro. A modern version of a Quill?

Carpathia will play, and look, quite different to Valkyrie. Running in real time, the game will have more intelligence, allowing the player to have fairly intelligent conversations with the characters he meets.

Versions for Spectrum, Commodore 64, and Amstrad are planned, with an ATN ST version following later.

Meanwhile, Ram Jam have a busy schedule, with some six or more titles in the pipeline. Some will be released by other publishers, including The Amulet which will come from Mosaic, the Adrian Mele people.

Other adventures from Ram Jam will feature science fiction, Chicago gangsters, and Ninja scenarios. It will be bringing you an in-depth report on Ram Jam's activities next issue.

THE GUILD OF THIEVES

As rumoured exclusively in this column two months ago, the first adventure based on the science fiction of Isaac Asimov is on its

way. Mike Woodroffe's Adventure Soft has signed a contract to produce the games.

The games will be released under the long winded title 'Isaac Asimov's Science Fiction Magazine Presents.' The first will be Kayleth, written by Stefan Urowski.

The plot of Kayleth, due for release during the summer, is Stefan's own creation but further titles WILL include games based on Asimov novels.

Meanwhile, future Fighting Fantasy titles on the move, are Demons of the Deep, Sword of the Samurai, and Trial of Champions.

ISAAC ASIMOV SOFTWARE

Magnetic Scrolls, the team that produced The Pawn, have signed a deal giving Rainbird Software the world marketing rights to six future products.

First of these will be another stunning adventure, The Guild of Thieves, due for release in the autumn.

Meanwhile, The Pawn is really taking off in the USA. Because of a six month wait for reviews to get into the US press every computer store selling The Pawn has been supplied with a copy of the C+VG's April issue — which featured an exclusive review of the game. This is being displayed alongside the game as information to prospective customers.

MAILBAG

● Up till now I have only played arcade games, which, although enjoyable, quickly become boring. For instance, I can hardly be bothered playing Tst any more.

I believe adventures will fill this gap — only, which ones to buy? I don't want to waste money on a batch of bad games, and to be immediately put off.

I can guess your answer may be to keep buying C+VG (which I will do) but I am writing this after receiving the April issue (excellent) which means another month before my next fix! S. Hutchinson, Corby.

Keith's reply: You are quite right! Ultimately, adventures are

the only games that will justify your computer's existence! But be careful, do not try anything too advanced until you have been "weaned" into the adventure world! Try first, as I did, Adventureland! It is written with the first-time player in mind.

● I think your adventure section is mega-fab. The adventure books are extra-mega-fab. I even buy two copies of C+VG, so I don't have to run one with the continual looking up of clues. Please could you tell me when the next one is? Stephen Randall, Randaistown, Co Antrim.

Keith's reply: Looks as if you

will have to wait a little while, Stephen. The date being discussed for the next Book of Adventure is the March issue. We found that the December issue, chosen for the last book, meant that much of the preparation time fell into the holiday period and the week of the PCW Show where the Helpline team put on a live performance! We want to bring you the best, and that doesn't happen if the job is rushed! What's more, there is usually more new software around at the time a March book is being produced.

● You promised to send me a postcard and you haven't! I still

want to know how to cross the chasm in Tower of Despair. Not the bridge guarded by the angel of death, but the CHASM — do you hear me?

I am going crazy over this one, and that's not the worst of it! My youngest child says she knows how to do it, but she won't tell me! Please put me in the picture before that pre-teen horror comes to torment me (and try to extort more pocket money) with incomprehensible references to flutes and things...

Don Macleod, Dingwall, Ross-shire.

Keith's reply: She's bluffing. Don't see the upside down section this issue.

ADVENTURE

HELPLINE

OF FOOD AND DRINK

Ray Nurden of Newport is trying to get the lid off a tomb, and has a bottle of wine he wants to get rid of in **Ashkeron**. Perhaps this will help **Jason Langwith** of Barkingside to wash a meal down, should he find one? He tried eating cheese, but suffered a terminal case of food poisoning, and is now seeking something more pleasant.

Meanwhile there's a more beery flavour to **Alan Maudlin's** problem. Alan is up in Peterborough trying to get past some rats in **Pub Quest**.

Ray's wine and Alan's beer will be no use for **Ian Fleming** of March, though. It is plain water that he seeks, and he needs it for a bean that is crying out in thirst in **Ring of Power**.

Athos Vassiliou of Cyprus will settle for a recipe, rather than a whole meal. What ingredients are needed to turn him into a human? He is playing **Witch's Cauldron**, and wants to know what to put into it.

Food, glorious food! **Andreas Hüller** of Munich, wants to know how to get information from the food centre, and also, what he should say to the engraver to get a library permit, in **Fahrenheit 451**.

PROBLEMS VARIOUS

It is rather daunting to discover that different versions of the same game, have different solutions. This means that the game has to be documented more than once, and that incorrect information can be inadvertently passed on to players.

Bored of the Rings is just such a game, and the BBC version causes endless misery to players trying to find the means to open the Morona Gate.

Simon Woodruffe, son of the well-known Mike, was one such agonised adventurer, who swore the pepper couldn't be found in the place I had suggested.

Another reader, **Robert Gregg** of Abingdon, confirms this problem. OK, then BBC players. Where is it? And then there's the **Amstrad** version, as well...

Another perennial puzzler comes from **Castle of Terror**. Everyone knows that you must break the spear to make a stake, (don't they? mustn't you?). Well, for goodness sake, someone tell us how you break it? Countless adventurers are desperate to know. Words of one syllable please!

Elton Ritchie of Berwick upon Tweed brings to the Helpline a new crop of **Kentilla** problems. How do you get past the fireshield? Where is the Talisman and diamonds? And how can you move the gargoyle to reveal a trapdoor?

Elton has also requested that a page be devoted each month to explain the basics of writing an adventure program. Older readers will remember that this was a feature of the original column from late 1981 to early 1983. Anyone who missed those issues can get hold of the whole series and more in book form. **The Computer & Video Games Book of Adventure** is published by Melbourne House, £5.95.

Miss Cattalano lives in Monte Carlo, and is a regular subscriber to C+VG. But whenever she goes to **Saigon**, her hut blows up. The only means of escape is via a stream with a deadly water snake. Has anyone survived **Saigon**, **Final Day**?

There's a native on the **Invincible Island**, watching **Michael Tang** of Leicester, with great suspicion. Other natives seem to be intent on stabbing him. Are they really invincible.

We are losing readers fast. They are being incarcerated in the **Zim Sala Bin** dungeon. Who can liberate these unfortunate souls, and help us to keep the C+VG circulation figures up?

Clare Ward of Barnsley wants to know the password to get past the custodian of the ring, in **Ring of Power**. What does the post mean, and why has she got just one piece of jigsaw from under an elephant?

A rat is causing much frustration to **Debra Long** of Cheam. Debra's fixation is with **Time Fixators**, and the rat is a Stainless Steel one, who

is trying to Save The World.

Trouble is, Debra's having problems in operating the fixators, and hasn't yet got past the first two locations.

This is the very problem I had, when I played the game.

First you must get **Coyra's** fixator, and make a helix. GO **HELIX** is then the command that allows you to change the values of spin, phase, flux, and resonance, for which you will be prompted.

Different combinations of these parameters will transport you to a number of scenarios — but I never discovered how to get where I wanted with any degree of certainty, nor what to do when I got there!

Peter Cseh of Athelstone in South Australia wants guidance. He is stuck at the stone monolith in **Souls of Darkon**, and feels the blacksmith might be able to offer some help, but what should he say to him?

Can the coffin in the clearing be opened? More important, where is the talisman mentioned in the scroll? Spiders and a demon are among other things between **James Laver** in **Taken from Ghall**.

Aengus Stewart has an eternal flame, and no way can he give it to **Tigroth**. In general he has trouble interacting with any of the characters in **Sorderon's Shadow**. Who can help?

A cutting problem for **Brendon Roberts** of Wanganer in New Zealand, is the whereabouts of the knife in **Colditz**, the adventure from **Phipps** that has become something of a classic.

LUCIFER'S REALM

Allen and Mark Errington have killed a snake, and feel they may have to do penance. Is there a way past the crystal door, in **Lucifer's Realm**, they ask?

Where is the Green Knight and the White Charger, often talked about in the Helpline? **Christopher McGrath** has completed **Quest for the Holy Grail**, but is still worrying over this problem. He has the original Dream Software version of the game, and wonders if any changes

have been made to the Mastertronic version?

The forest of **Deja Vu**, and the quicksand, are bogging down **John Manifold** of Uleby. When I wrote to **Al-Strad's** author, he was very helpful with clues. The trouble is, they were just about as helpful as many of mine...

Problems of all sorts provide a continual flow of letters on **Sorcerer of Claymore Castle**. **John Nicholson** is nine years-old and healthy right now, but soon he'll die of young age! Seems he needs to do a bit of icon pulling!

"If you examine the staff, in **See Kaa of Asiah**, press the stud and when you reach the guardian, throw the staff in," says **Maggie Gregory**, of BPO 106. Now all she needs to know, is what the small hook is for!

Ian Fleming is pressing on with **Denis** through the **Drinking Glass**, but now cannot pass **Keith Joseph**, who is high on LSD. You can try giving him back his marbles, Ian.

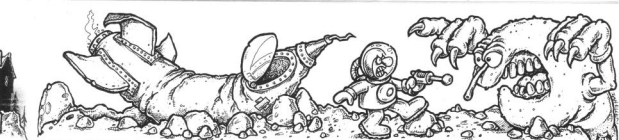
There is a vicious dog on the edge of the woods, and for some reason, **David Mills** of Stourbridge cannot either kill it, or entice it away. He is playing **Castle of Skull Lord**. Is there a dog-handler out there who can help?

Another riddle comes from **Ridley's Den**. **David Stephens** of Darlington is unsure how to use the objects he has collected, and would welcome any tips in general.

ADVENTURER OF THE YEAR

The competition all adventure enthusiasts are impatient to enter is getting nearer! Full details of our 1986 Adventurer of the Year competition will be announced in





the September issue of C+VG. There will be a unique Adventure Trophy awarded to the winner, as well as the chance to get into print with a review of your favourite game, and to speak to fellow adventurers on radio. There will be plenty of time for overseas readers to enter the competition, too, for the finals will not be held until December. But to be eligible, you will need to prove you have read the C+VG Adventure column for at least three months. If you intend to enter, start now, by saving the first entry token, on this page.

CHEAT'S CORNER

Here's a way for Atari players of *Mysterious Adventures* to get some most revealing results! "Restore a game from the same series, other than the one you are playing," suggests A. Duffy of Deeside. "However," he warns, "it does mean that the current game will have to be re-loaded, as it will become unplayable!"

THE DANISH CONNECTION

Erling Hansen wrote from Denmark to ask where Paul Copping got his bacon sandwiches from, while he was solving *Lord of the Rings*. "He can't have solved it as quickly as you said, because of the time it takes to do things in the game."

Erling says he prefers English computer magazines to the Danish ones, as in the first issue of *COMputer*, the whole *Hulk* and *Hobbit* solutions were printed. Shame on you Christian Martensen! Never give too much away, or Paul's sandwiches will contain English bacon in future! I dropped a line to Christian, with a stern ticking-off. Christian wrote back in a state of indignation! "Tell me, why are Danish readers writing to you, telling (squealing) about me?" Christian has his suspicions as to where the leak is coming from. Christian is currently struggling

ADVENTURE CLUES

QUEST FOR THE HOLY GRAIL
When you've got it, put it on the pedestal! Find the rabbit ear of the narrow path. Learn about arms before approaching, and throw the grenade at it!

TOWER OF DESPAIR
Eat the berries, and jump!

KNIGHT'S QUEST
At the cliff, LOWER ROPE and CLIMB DOWN.

SOULS OF DARKON
Put the crystal into the fountain, for a guiding light.

MORDON'S QUEST
Give Spiderman a newspaper to make yucky that which cannot be seen! A spray reveals the better geiger counter, for droid repairs.

CRYSTAL QUEST
Pull the lever and examine the catwalk.

FAHRENHEIT 451
The knife is in the restaurant at ESJ-54. Sneak it! Chatterboxer is in the doctor's desk. Hear the pedlock to get into the sickle at the shop. Tell them you are stark in the treatment room. Tell them where Dr Foster went. Use a clip on the cabinet.

QUEST OF MERRAVID
The king's horse is worth a gem. Have faith to pass the guard dogs.

GRUDS IN SPACE
If Deedo seems to be displeased, When news from Venus be received.

Don't despair, and don't delay.
Give Arlier's note, and on your way!

HEWSON'S QUEST
Open the trap door at your peril! Down the hole and muck stops to the glittering walls. If you survive, get and clean the picture, to end the game.

HEROES OF KARN
The Falcon chamber is south of the king's anteroom. Drink the wine potion to pass the firegate.

through Infocom's *Spellbreaker*, and writes: "Please do not write and tell me that Paul solved *Spellbreaker* in a mere glimpse, whilst eating a bacon sandwich! I am in the middle of it, and it is tearing my nerves apart!"

ADVENTURE CHAT

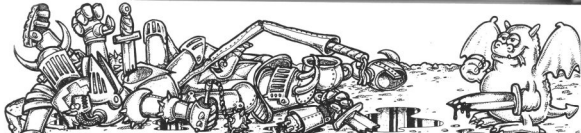
A truly international effort has helped two frustrated

Fahrenheit 451 players! Frank Herzel of the Netherlands, came to the rescue of *Giancarlo Fantechi* of Italy, who needed to get into the magic shop.

He also sent in a list of quotations, and what to do with them. They're in the usual place. The wait for *The Fantastic Four* has been a long one, but it's here at last! I had to smile at a comment in a letter from *Dave Teague* of Caerleon: "I think I saw a copy of *Questprobe 3* in my local shop." Perhaps it arrived with the first cuckoo...

ADVENTURE CLUES

Thanks this month to: Andreas Huller, Munich; Danny Dinnenn, Cork; Andrew Ingham, Keighley; Stephen Randall, Co Antrim; Don MacLeod, Dingwall; Hugh Walker, Burgham; Paul and Glen Gibney, Carrickfergus; Mandy Rodrigues, Llandudno; Steven Hammons, Balcombe; Frank Herzen, Netherlands; Bet Hall, Dartford; Lee Jenkinson, Rotherham.



REVIEWS/1

BALLYHOO

- **Machine:** Disk only on wide range of computers
- **Supplier:** Infocom
- **Price:** Varies with version

Ballyhoo is the latest adventure from Infocom, set in the world of the circus, and is described as a Standard level adventure, ideal for beginners.

The story unfolds as the curtain falls on the big top. As I followed the outflowing crowd, I was more than a little disappointed with the experience of the circus. All the ballyhoo promising wonderment, somehow fell a long way short of the mark.

It was not just the outrageous prices, the shabbiness of the acts themselves, or even the fact that the audience were more savage than the lions. Deep down, I knew it was because of my secret desire to steal the spotlight, defy death, and bask in the thunder of applause.

As I left the crowds and looked around the circus and its sideshows for the last time, I came across Colonel Thumb, one of the midgets, who was having difficulty drinking from a fountain nearby. I helped him up, so that he could have a drink, and he saluted me for my kindness, before waddling off into the darkness. Maybe somewhere else in this adventure he would return the favour, but for now, I would have to wait and see.

Moving on, I passed the white wagon belonging to Mr Munrab the circus owner, which also doubled as a ticket office. Now it was locked up, and all in darkness. Eventually I stood outside an old tent.

Once inside, I found there all the props used by circus acts. I started looking around, but hadn't got very far before two ominous shadows appeared against the wall of the tent. Talking in whispers, they were clearly

coming this way. If I didn't act fast, I'd be caught-handed, so I found myself a hiding place.

As the men entered the tent, their conversation made it clear that one was the circus owner, Mr Munrab, and the other, a private detective. Munrab's daughter Chelsea, it seemed, had been kidnapped. Unconcerned, the detective appeared ready to suspect anyone Munrab suggested as the kidnapper. Clearly this detective lacked any kind of professionalism or passion.

Handing over a recent photo of his daughter, Munrab and the detective left the tent and walked out into the warm summer night.

Since the detective seemed to be doing little to find the real kidnapper, here was my chance to help, and, in so doing, maybe get an opportunity to do something in the circus.

Those of you out there who have

played **Hitch Hiker's Guide** will remember the scene in which you have an argument with the game while on the Heart of Gold, when you try to enter the drive chamber. This time, you'll have one over an Egress. What is an Egress? I'm not telling, suffice to say, if you follow the argument through, you'll find out!

Once more Infocom have come up with the goods, to maintain their position as number one adventure creators. The wealth of information provided, and the almost human quality possessed by the computer when one of their games is loaded, never ceases to amaze me.

Steve Donoghue

- | | |
|---------------------|----|
| ● Vocabulary | 8 |
| ● Atmosphere | 9 |
| ● Personal | 9 |
| ● Value | 10 |

FOURMOST ADVENTURES

- **Machine:** Spectrum 48K
- **Supplier:** Global Software
- **Price:** £1.95

Fourmost Adventures is a four-game cassette with an adventure theme. The four adventures which make up the cassette have been chosen and recommended by Tony Bridge, the adventure writer for Popular Computing Weekly.

Microman was originally released as a single, and reviewed by Paul Coppins in November, (Personal Rating 7), so it will not be separately reviewed here.

Out of the Shadows: This is not a true adventure, more a role-playing dungeons and dragons type game, in which you must search for treasure in one of six available quests, gaining experience as you go.

The game reminded me of **The Valley**, which appeared in Computing Today back in 1982, as a Basic listing for the Commodore pet, and was subsequently converted for a variety of other machines.

There are plenty of options in the game, ranging from which race of creature to be, to choosing weapons, spells, and armour. The display consists of a small figure (you) manipulated through a small graphics area showing your

immediate vicinity. The idea, of course, is to allow you only to see that which would be visible to you in real life. The rest of the screen shows information about your current status.

To describe the game fully would take quite some time, as nearly every course of action is included. Indeed, a few hours could be spent just learning all the possible commands, and herein lies the game's main weakness — there are too many commands and no PAUSE facility. By the time you've figured out which command to use, you are usually dead!

Apart from that, not a bad role-playing game.

The Mural: This is a text only Quilved adventure. The objective is to erase some rather naughty graffiti written on a wall, and to this end you find yourself in a cave, having been knocked out and placed there by two men wearing suspender belts!

I hadn't been playing for long before I realised just how much I was wasting my time. Considering the text is written in English, I had thought it quite reasonable to assume that my commands should be entered in English. Not so, the parser of this adventure is the worst I've ever seen.

To illustrate just how bad it is,

I'll tell you about the newspaper, I wasn't allowed to pick it up, but I could read it, and thus discovered that it held a coupon. On typing READ COUPON, the reply was 'It's in the paper stupid'. Assuming, that I had to remove the coupon before I could read it, I found the necessary items to do so. But what happened was even more surprising. In response to my command to cut the coupon, I found myself deposited outside the location I had just entered.

This was not an isolated incident, either. Many times throughout the game my commands were misinterpreted completely, resulting in instant transportation to some other location, sudden death, or being told I couldn't move in a certain direction.

Finally, after every turn I was greeted with the words: 'More great ideas?' At first this wonderful prompt was amusing, gradually being replaced with boredom, and eventually, pure irritation. All in all, a fine example of how not to

write an adventure.

Galaxias: This was written by Fergus McNeill, who brought us **Bored of the Rings** and **Robin of Sherlock**.

Beginning in a spaceship, once you have found your space ship you can explore four different planets, each with its own set of puzzles to solve. On my last count, I'd discovered 80 different locations, ranging from the top of a 1000 story building to a mud hut in the middle of a jungle. I even managed to teleport myself to nowhere at all!

Galaxias makes good use of the Spectrum's capabilities, and the locations are well described. Definitely the best adventure of the four!

None of these adventures are special, though, and some are very poor. According to Tony Bridge, who chose them, they are all fine examples of the Adventure Writer's art. Sorry, Tony, but as a collection, I don't know how you dared to put your name to them! Steve Donoghue

	Out Of The Shadows	The Mural	Galaxias
● Vocabulary	n/a	0	6
● Atmosphere	n/a	5	8
● Personal	5	0	7
● Value	5	5	5

TOLKIEN'S BLOCKBUSTERS.



The great things they have said about
THE LORD OF THE RINGS

"Promises to be one of the biggest games
of 1986."
Crash

"Explore, experience and enjoy."
Computer Video & Games

"Adventure game of the Year."
Popular Computing Weekly Readers Award

"Destined to appeal to all adventurers."
Computer Trade Weekly

...and about THE HOBBIT.

"A perfect blend of atmosphere, sophistication,
graphics and classic adventure problems".
Popular Computing Weekly

"Brilliant, amusing and incurably addictive."
Commodore User

"Make new discoveries each time."
Micro Adventurer

"More of an experience than a program."
Popular Computing Weekly

The HOBBIT

LORD OF THE RINGS Game 1
for Spectrum, C64, Amstrad, BBC at £15.95.
THE HOBBIT now available
for Spectrum, C64, Amstrad, BBC at the new price £9.95.

MELBOURNE HOUSE



The Home of the Hits!

ADVENTURE

PREVIEW: THE PRICE OF MAGIC

What are Level 9 up to? **Worm in Paradise** concluded the Silicon Dream trilogy. With the **Price of Magic** just about to be released, KEITH CAMPBELL visited Pete, Nick, and Mike Austin at their fantasy factory, Level 9 West, just outside Weston-super-Mare, to discover if their life's work was now complete. He found exactly the opposite!

Pete Austin gets slightly indignant about bug-ridden adventures. True, pretty nearly every adventure ever produced has some slight glitch, at least. But some seem to thrive on players' boasts about how many bugs they have found.

Level 9 consistently produce a program quality second to none. Over the years, they have built up a first class reputation, having created twelve best-selling titles to date.

Pete's indignation about bugged programs is well justified, for when I arrived, Mike was working at his development system, surrounded by keyboards, piles of notes, and goodness knows what else, looking rather harassed.

"I'm just finishing off my part of THE GAME," he grinned. "It was just about to be duplicated when we found a bug." This delayed the release by a few days, and all, it

Mike have added! Putting the clue sheet together can be quite a nightmare, for people start screaming for them very soon after the game is out! They scream in large numbers, too. Pete reckons about 2,000 requests a month are received.

It is perhaps ironic that their most successful creation to date, **The Secret Diary of Adrian Mole**, (published by Mosaic) which sold more than 150,000 copies, was not actually a real adventure game! However, the earnings of **Mole**, Pete Austin told me, has at last given them a sound financial base on which to build a major expansion. Even if the family don't mind living frugally in the lean times, programmers have to be paid, and Level 9 is poised to take on some additional programming help.

When I saw the detail of research, game design, and

Exits are northeast
room, south to a m
southwest to the p
and west to below
gallows.
What now? SW
You're in the pent
Exits are northeast
landing and south
Panelled corridor.
feeling of Magic.

written by William Smethurst, now running Crossroads, but for the past ten years producers, and sometimes scriptwriter, of **The Archers**. Both **Mole 2** and **The Archers** will have more choices and plot than the original **Mole**, but Pete described the difficulty in creating such a game.

"In multiple choice books, like **Fighting Fantasy**, for example, there are one or two choices on every page," he explained. "The trouble with the computer screen is that it can't hold so much text as the printed page. Therefore the intervals at which the player interacts seem further apart. There tends to be a need for a few screens of text between each input."

If **Mole** made thousands of 13 and 34 year olds aware of Level 9 for the first time, then perhaps **Archers** will introduce Level 8, and interactive fiction, to a whole new age range.

THE RAINBIRD CONTRACT

Colossal Adventure Quest, and **Dungeon Adventure**, the first three text only adventures which established Level 9 as a leading UK adventure house, are being revamped with graphics and augmented text. They will be released at **The Colossal Trilogy**

under a contract signed with Rainbird Software. As well as being available in the UK, the trilogy will be Level 9's debut in the USA.

"We had been thinking about a deal with Rainbird for some time," said Pete. "We finally decided when Paula Byrne joined Rainbird, as Marketing Manager. She had done such a marvelous job with Melbourne House, that we have every confidence in her ability to put us well and truly on the map in the States."

In September, a new adventure — **Knight Orc** — is planned for Rainbird, and this promises to be an adventure with a difference.

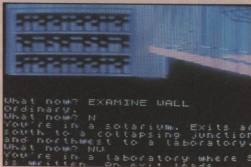
The player will start off believing himself to be a Knight, only to find that he was merely dreaming, and is, in reality, nothing better than a miserable Orc.

For once, you get the chance to play the baddie, and there will be 200 locations in which to do so.

"Interaction with the other characters encountered in the game, will take it beyond Infocom standard," promises Pete.

LEVEL 9'S OWN

Believe it or not, Level 9 also have two adventures of their own in the pipeline. But it seems they have been so busy they haven't yet got



seems, due to a missing full-stop! "It's not writing games that's difficult," complained Pete, modestly. "Anyone could do that! Getting the hint-sheets written, that is the headache!"

Now I've had a sneaking suspicion for some time that Pete deliberately leaves out a few vital clues in each hint sheet, to keep the player on his toes, and to fool **Adventure Helpline**...

"Not at all," explained Pete. "After the game design has been finalised, we each go away and do 'our bit' on it. The trouble is, I'm never quite sure what cunning new puzzles of their own, Nick and

programming that they put into each game, I marvelled at how they have managed to find time for all they have achieved to date, on their own.

THE MOSAIC CONNECTION

During the coming year, Level 9's connections with Mosaic Publishing will continue. First, there will be **The Growing Pains of Adrian Mole** scheduled for a July-ish release. A couple of months later, we can expect to see **The Archers**, an everyday computer story, in a similar format.

Pete showed me the text,



anything he has done before."

AVALON

Most ambitious of all, is a longer term project—a multi-user adventure to rival MUD. Entitled **Avalon**, it will be set in the world of King Arthur and Camelot, not a million miles from Chess Austin!

Mounted on a wall was a large and detailed geo-schematic map, drawn in the Austin hand, and covering the south west of England.

In **Avalon**, there will be more puzzles to solve than in MUD, and chivalry will play a major part. The game will feature more than 1,000 characters of its own, and there will be plenty of interaction with both them, and other players. It will be possible to recruit servants from the fields, for example, to raise an army and capture a castle.

Once experienced, there will be little incentive for a player to continue to solve puzzles, so the game will then involve mainly strategy, and further points will be awarded for being able to retain possession of castles for a certain length of time.

Eventually, a very successful player will be able to manipulate the adventure world as perceived by other, more lowly adventurers.

Unlike MUD, which uses a VAX computer, dated and unsuitable hardware that Pete reckons was mainly to blame for IT's troubles with it, the electronic brain driving **Avalon** will consist of three or four boards with 68020 processors, all linked together, with access through some 100 modems. It will have 10 times the power of the MUD system, claims Pete, and will be available directly by local call to players in the London telephone area, or relatively cheaply elsewhere via PPS.

Once it is up and running, anyone will be able to dial up and play, quoting a credit card number

However, when **Avalon** does arrive, it will be free for the first month. "I don't think it is on to make a charge for something that will probably suffer from a few bugs to start with," he explained. "We will need a bit of experience with it, before we can be sure everything nasty has been ironed out."

THE PRICE OF MAGICK

● Machine: Commodore 64/128;

Spectrum 486/128K; MSX; Amstrad

CPCs; Atari XL/XE; BBC

● Supplier: Level 9

● Price: £9.95

Myglar, once a noble magician, is maintaining his life by sucking magical power from the Crystal, of which he is the Guardian. Soon, there will be no magic left in the world. Your objective is to defeat Myglar and take his place before it is too late.

You'll start the game knowing nothing about Magick, not even how to cast a lowly spell. As you progress, you'll soon recognise a spell when you see one, and learn how to use it, so that by the time you're finished, you are an expert, and know everything.

Your journey through the adventure takes you into all the secret nooks and crannies of a very large house, and its surroundings. But first you'll probably get cold comfort from something nasty in the woodshed, which slithers about unseen, protected by a pile of rotting wood.

If you have a sensitive nature, then be warned—magick can have quite a horrific side, and you will come across some very macabre objects, like a knuckie with a ring on it. Will you be too squeamish to remove the ring and wear it yourself? How will you feel

unforeseen snag! Never mind, taking a risky move and ending up in trouble, is a forgivable offence in **Price of Magick**.

Programmed by Nick Austin, a new command, OOPS, has been built in. If OOPS is your natural reaction to a disastrous result of an action, simple type it, and you'll find yourself back in your previous location, instant!

In fact, you can perform an OOPS more than once on some machines, but the number of backwards moves depends on the machine's memory.

Another new feature for Level 9 is RAMP SAVE, also written by Nick. This increasingly popular feature is certainly very useful for those, like me, who cannot keep their blank cassettes well organised!

Price of Magick uses a new adventure system, and is up to Infocom standard. Complex commands, including instructions to other characters, can be entered. Having said that, I did find one slight difficulty with words, when I had to use the exact expression in the reply to EXAMINE (object) to perform a particular action, despite my own words being very similar, and just as obvious.

Level 9 have been appalled at the extent of piracy of their games, and the worst offenders, John Austin told me, are BBC owners, judging by the fact that MSX sales are higher than BBC sales. Having many friends with Bees, I tend to agree—most of them go around wearing an eye patch, and carrying a parrot.

So Beeb owners can, perhaps, be blamed for the debut of Lenselek protection into Level 9 adventures. But the Lenselek is used in an unusual way. It is called for at various stages DURING the game, rather than as a prerequisite for loading.

st to a table
Misty Hall,
pentagonal ro
a huge
tagonal room.
to a little
to an oak
There's a

PICTURE.
What now? EXAMINE PICTURE
showing an evil man who clutch
the red moon.
What now? GET
You're in a bone chamber. Exit
are east to a rest room, south
a rough tunnel, southeast
a hall and west to an echoing

Your sanity is shaken
What now? EXAMINE WOODPILE
Ready for a fire. Underneath
is something nasty.
What now? GET WOODPILE
It doesn't budge.
What now? M
You're on a herb garden. Ance
leads east to a woodshed. YOU

around to sorting out names for them yet!

Sue Gazzard, the woman who dreamed up **Lords of Time**, has been bending her mind to a new scenario with a Wagnerian theme, and this will be the next release on the Level 9 label.

Fergus McNeil (of **Bored of the Rings** fame) will be joining forces with the Austins, for what is bound to be another tasty romp.

"To date, Fergus has only used **The Quill**," commented Pete. "We are very interested to see his work using our Adventure system. It should be very much bigger than

to register. He will then have his own SAVE file created, which will keep a log of his position every minute or so, enabling him to come back into the game at the point at which he logged off. This will also restore his status in the event of a system crash—a feature which MUD lacks; when MUD fails, it's all back to square one.

"I know when I hope it will be ready, but MUD got off to such a bad start by failing to appear when promised." So Pete wouldn't be drawn as to when all this will be available.

about carrying a blood-sucking bat around?

Talking of carrying things around, I couldn't seem to hit an inventory limit, and the list of objects I was carrying was sometimes enormous.

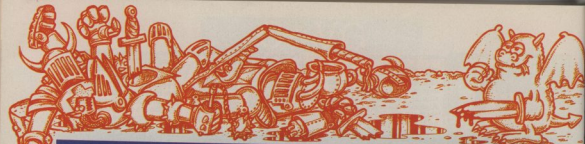
Almost as enormous was the map I was drawing, which seemed to be forming in every decreasing circles until there was no room in the middle for any further exploration, without a complete re-draw!

Soon I found I was able to recognise a spell when I saw one, but casting often revealed

Price of Magick has the usual special Austin touch of humour, and the unique Austin association of ideas in the puzzles. It is big, full of atmosphere, and entertaining. I'll be surprised if it isn't soon following in the footsteps of its predecessor, **Red Moon**, up there among the front runners for this year's C+VG Golden joystick.

Keith Campbell

- Vocabulary 9
- Atmosphere 10
- Personal 10
- Value 10



REVIEWS/4

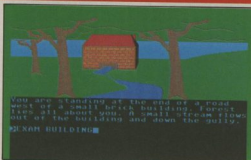
THE VERY BIG CAVE ADVENTURE

- Machine: CBM64
- Supplier: CRL Ltd/St Brides School
- Price: £7.95

I can honestly say I never laughed out loud so much while playing an adventure! *Terrormolinos* has its humour and satire, *Bored of the Rings* is an excellent spoof, but the jokes are many and varied in this one.

If you've been there before, it adds to the hilarity no end. And of course, I have been there before in Tandy's *Pyramid*, in *Abersoft Adventure*, in *Classic Adventure*, and in *Colossal*. I've even played a mainframe version.

I refer, of course, to the ORIGINAL ADVENTURE, and its many derivatives. I often wonder how Crowther and Woods view the people who recode their original work in faithful playing detail. However, they can hardly fail to smile at the latest example! This one is from those lovely ladies at St Brides's School, and school prefect Tricie Trinian is your guide. She knows her way



around, so behave yourself, and follow her.

Very Big is a Patched and Illustrated Quill adventure, but had I not been told on the inlay (which itself has a dig at inlays!) I would not have known. The graphics are good and fast, and the appearance is not stereotyped. There are two parts, and although there is a RAM SAVE option, you will need a tape

to move from Part 1 to Part 2.

Believe it or not, you start in a forest outside a brick building. It's a Welly House, and to get in you'll have to put a penny in a slot of a brass mechanism that says 'Vacant'.

Once inside, you will find a spring of the coiled type, and a familiar, yet somehow different set of objects. There are the keys, of course, else how would you hope to open the inevitable grating? There's the food, and a bottle. But there never was a bomb in any version I played before!

Examine the bottle, and you will

get a warning of what's to come. "Green. Originally one of a set of ten."

But if you've played the original, the game doesn't work out quite as you might expect. How do you get hold of the penny to open the door, to get the key, to open the grating? Hmm... not so simple, eh? You'll have to find someone glibble enough to help...

Fancy visiting the bog? Perhaps a quicksand bog with a blue ox, spooing another well known game? No, just a reminder that I had already spent my penny!

Once in the cave, if you play by the old rules, the game tells you that it knows you've played it before! There are jokes, and unexpected happenings all the way. Ever tried playing text space invaders? You'll get the chance here!

So how did I rate? I scored a measly two shillings and fourpence three-farthings, out of a possible top notch Spelunker's rating of £131,000. And that's only in Part 1!

Get it — you'll love it!

Keith Campbell

- | | |
|--------------|----|
| ● Vocab | 8 |
| ● Atmosphere | 9 |
| ● Personal | 9 |
| ● Value | 10 |

CASTLE THADE

- Machine: Spectrum 48K
- Supplier: Spectrum Adventure Exchange Club. Available by mail-order from the above at: 4 Kilmartin Lane, Carlisle, Lanarkshire, ML8 5RT.
- Price: £5.00 inc P&P

The plot of *Castle Thade* is, shall we say, "uncluttered." You have to reach the castle. Finding that the castle is in plain view from the first location, things look pretty easy.

Wrong. Between you and your goal is a large black river, coming down from the mountains to the south, and going over a waterfall ahead. We probably aren't going to get over the river, so there's got to be another way.

That large boulder there looks a bit suspicious — let's try moving it. Hurruurp! Ah ha! Eventually it rolls away disclosing a cave entrance.

Well, this doesn't seem too bad, does it? Despite the dreadful white on blue text, the game seems friendly enough. The descriptions are quite long and well written (the punctuation is a little questionable) and there's a fast response, too.

Unfortunately, the game goes

downhill rather rapidly after that. It's Quilled, so the most common response to a command is YOU CAN'T. I followed the recently discovered path beyond the boulder, and lying on the floor was a torch. Whenever you find a source of light, you can bet you'll soon be plunged into darkness.

After a further thirty minutes, I still couldn't get it working. Had there been no battery or oil, I could have understood, but with no explanation as to WHY, my patience waned at an alarming rate.

If you are the first to complete this game, you win a Microvitec 1431 MZ STD RES colour monitor for your Spectrum. I can only recommend it to those in need of either that monitor or a dose of frustration!

Castle Thade is produced by The Spectrum Adventure Exchange Club, which arranges monthly 'swaps' between members, for a £1.25 handling charge, and promises a monthly newsletter.

Jim Douglas

- | | |
|--------------|---|
| ● Vocabulary | 3 |
| ● Atmosphere | 3 |
| ● Personal | 4 |
| ● Value | 4 |

TERRORS OF TRANTOSS



This is what the *Terrors of Trantoss* REALLY looks like. Last issue our late lamented typesetters decided to treat you to two pictures of *Voyage* to

Ithaca. Very nice they were too — but we really wanted you to see these very pretty pictures of Trantoss from the Ram Jam Corporation.

THE PRICE OF MAGIK

INDEPENDENT
CREATURES

INVENTIVE
PUZZLES

SOPHISTICATED
WORD
RECOGNITION



MANY
POWERFUL
SPELLS

VIVID
WITTY
RESPONSES

200+
LOCATIONS
ALL
ILLUSTRATED
(not BBC)

AS YOU RISE FROM SORCERER'S
APPRENTICE TO SUPREME WIZARD
THE PRICE OF MAGIK
WILL KEEP YOU SPELLBOUND

THE CAMPAIGN AGAINST WORLD POVERTY

WAR ON WANT GAMES

ALL PROCEEDS TO WAR ON WANT

14 FABULOUS TITLES FOR ANY 48K SPECTRUM FOR ONLY £9.95!

ARTIC — SPECTRUM CHESS II
AUDIOGENIC — BUGEYES
BEAU-JOLLY — PEDRO
CDS — WINGED WARLORD
FIREBIRD — MR FREEZE
LLAMASOFT — HEADBANGER'S HEAVEN
MASTERTRONIC — WIZARD'S WARRIOR

War on Want supports long-term development projects in over 30 countries to provide self-sufficiency in food production, better health care and improved education for the world's poor.

MELBOURNE HOUSE — HELLFIRE
OCEAN — HUNCHBACK II
PSION — HORACE & THE SPIDERS
PSS — XAVIOR
QUICKSILVA — RUPERT & THE ICE CASTLE
STAR DREAMS — CYBERTANKS
VIRGIN — DR FRANKY & THE MONSTER



Please send me.....copy(s) of WOW games
I enclose a cheque/PO made out to WOW (trading)
Ltd for £.....

Name.....

Address.....

Town.....Postcode.....

Send form (with payments) to: WOW Games,
Room 62A, 1, London Bridge St, London SE1 9SG
or order by Access or Visa: Phone 01 403 2266
AND ASK FOR GAMES DEPARTMENT



REVIEWS5 MASTER CLASS

- **Machine:** Spectrum
- **Supplier:** Trinity Software. Available by mail order from above, at: 117 Birchfield Road, Perry Barr, Birmingham, B19 1LL
- **Price:** £4.95

Dr Haversham, the principal and proprietor of the academy at which you have been working as a teacher, is nearing retirement. He has promised to leave the school to the teacher who can locate the deeds.

I thought that sounded like an

interesting plot — a welcome change from saving the world, slaying dragons, having battles with wizards, and all the other things Keith thinks I do before breakfast each morning!

Hum, yes, a nice quiet walk around the grounds of the school, filled only with echoes of last term, would be quite relaxing. I was right, for after the initial mapping and puzzle solving, all the action ceased. There was nothing left to do except check out the whereabouts of the blackboards.

The blackboards had some very

strange questions chalked up on them: WHEN TIME IS SHOWN, WHO IS ON THE THRONE?

However, having already spotted the answer in the history room, I boldly typed in: ANSWER XXXX XXXX — only to get the reply: SORRY — CAN'T DO THAT!

Things then got worse, for no matter what format I tried, the computer always gave the same answer. This was not altogether unexpected, for I had already come across a projector that would not project, and a microscope that no way was going

to reveal the secret of a microdot!

The screen layout looks normal at a glance, but if you type LOOK, the bottom half turns into a simple but effective line drawing of the location you are in. On examining the blackboards, a close up in graphics is displayed.

Despite the adventure's somewhat strange vocabulary, it has in its favour some very good features.

Paul Coppins

- **Vocabulary** 4
- **Atmosphere** 8
- **Personal** 7

MURDER HUNT

- **Machine:** Spectrum 48K
- **Supplier:** Bodkin Software
- **Price:** £2.50

A murder is on the loose in the peaceful farming village of Kespely. Father Paddy Murphy (that's you) walks out of his church, into the graveyard, and finds his gravedigger stabbed to death, lying in a pool of blood. A trail of bloodstained footprints lead off, down the lane.

Father Paddy's quest is to find the murderer, and secure him before carting him away. A tour of the neighbouring countryside uncovers the maniac's tracks.

Ripped clothing is found in the woods, and an empty bottle in the disused mine. More startling is a grim discovery in a cottage in the village.

This is a text only adventure, and the text is of a rather strange design, and not ever-so-easily legible. It has fairly lengthy location descriptions that convey the rustic atmosphere well, besides building up the tension in the game.

Input is by verb-noun, and, unusual in an adventure, there is a PAUSE command. This implies that the game is played in real time.

This is an interesting game, rather like exploring a detective story for yourself, and more adventures of the Rev. Murphy are promised.

Keith Campbell

- **Vocabulary** 10
- **Atmosphere** 10
- **Personal** 10
- **Value** 10

THE EXTRICATOR

- **Machine:** Spectrum 48K
- **Supplier:** Precision Games. Mail order (21p extra) from: 2 Fern Hill, Langdon Hills, Basildon, Essex.
- **Price:** £2.99

Professor Roberts is imprisoned at the Star Fleet Command HQ on the planet Arg. Your job is to extricate him. The snag is, that the complex is split up into sectors, and to infiltrate the sector where the prof is languishing, involves passing through three other sectors.

You must get hold of the appropriate pass to move from one sector to the next. Therein lie the puzzles.

The puzzles are not overly difficult, but the solutions do

sometimes require a bit of spotting. EXAMINE is a command used to good effect here, and this adds a lot to the adventure.

Quilled, patched, and illustrated, *The Extricator* is described as a split screen text and graphics adventure. There are very few graphics, and you can even turn those off, although they are pleasant enough not to want to.

One word of warning! I nearly didn't get as far as reviewing this game, as I got locked into four locations.

Keith Campbell

- **Vocabulary** 8
- **Atmosphere** 8
- **Personal** 9
- **Value** 10

C+VG OFFER



Have you found it difficult writing your own Adventures? The answer to your prayers has finally arrived. The Graphic Adventure Creator (G.A.C.) from Incentive Software.

The thing that sets it aside from most other Adventure Creators is its ability to allow you to create stunning graphics easily. It also features an 'intelligent command interpreter,' and 'text compression.' What more can you ask for? Oh yes, £4 off the price! The Spectrum, C64, BBC and Amstrad cassette versions would cost you £22.95 and C64, BBC and Amstrad discs £27.95. BUT, Incentive Software are offering C+VG readers a discount on both versions. Cassettes will cost £19.95 — a saving of £3.00 and Disc versions £23.95 — saving £4.00.

Interested!! Then write to: Incentive Software, 54 London Street, Reading RG1 4SQ, enclosing a cheque or postal order made payable to Incentive Software Ltd. Don't forget to include the special C+VG token with your order form. Please allow 28 days for delivery.

C+VG/INCENTIVE SOFTWARE ADVENTURE CREATOR OFFER

Name _____
Address _____

Computer owned (tick box) Amstrad ☐ C64 ☐ BBC ☐
Spectrum ☐ Format (tick box) Cassette ☐ Disk ☐

I enclose a cheque/postal order for £_____ made payable to Incentive Software Ltd.

C+VG COMPETITION



THESIUS COMPETITION

Shhhhhh!!! Don't say a word. This information is Top Secret. For your eyes only.

This is Rick Hanson, the toughest agent in British Intelligence, calling. Remember me in Robico Software's *Assassin*? Well now you can join me in my toughest assignment yet — *Project Thesius*.

The enemy are up to their tricks again. A team of bad, mad boffins are working on an Advanced Weapons System on a remote island. My orders are as follows: Find the AWS development centre, gather as much information on the project and escape. It's a tough mission. But the question is: Are you tough enough to join me on this escapade?

Robico, my controllers, have 20 copies of my adventure on the BBC B and Electron up for grabs.

To stand a chance of joining me on my mission you'll have to answer these special C+VG spy questions...

Below are printed the names of several British spies and traitors. Some are genuine, some not. Can you circle the guilty people?

Meanwhile, if you do not want to enter the competition but would like to buy *Project Thesius*, Robico is willing to do a £2 off deal with C+VG readers.

All you have to do is cut out the special C+VG logo on this page and send it to Robico. This will entitle you to £2 off the normal retail price of £9.95 for the cassette and £11.95 for disk.

Send the logo together with your money to Robico Software, 3 Fairland Close, Llantrisant, Mid-Glamorgan CF7 8QH.

The names are:

- | | | | |
|-----------|------------|-----------|------------|
| ● Maclean | ● Blunt | ● Burgess | ● Wynne |
| ● Philby | ● Metcalfe | ● Kennedy | ● Williams |

Perhaps the best known British spy and hero is James Bond. Name his creator.

Answer _____

Send your answers together with the printed coupon to Project Thesius Competition, Computer + Video Games, Priory Court, 30-32 Farringdon Lane, London EC1R 3AU. The closing date is July 16th and the Editor's decision is final.

C+VG/ROBICO PROJECT THESIUS COMPETITION

Name _____

Address _____

**Atari 400/600/800/XL 130XE Atari 520ST
Commodore 64/Vic20/C16/Plus 4
Spectrum/BBC/Amstrad**

Hardware Software Peripherals

Mediatech 5 1/4 Discs (SS/DD)	11.95
Mediatech 5 1/4 Discs (DS/SS)	12.95
LOCKABLE 100 DISC BOXES	9.95

PHONE OR WRITE FOR PRICES

LIVINGSTON COMPUTER CENTRE
17 THE MALL, CRAIGSHILL
LIVINGSTON. (0506) 36978



FREE POSTAGE AND PACKING ON ORDERS OVER £20
Callers Welcome

MIDLAND COMPUTER LIBRARY
A SUBSIDIARY OF PLATINUM GOLD

- Over 8,000 different titles available for hire for the COMMODORE, SPECTRUM, BBC, AMSTRAD, ATARI, MSX, ELECTRON, IBM and AMIGOS.
- ARCADE, ADVENTURE, EDUCATIONAL and BUSINESS software too.
- WIRE PRICES from only 5p inc. VAT.
- 20% DISCOUNT on all purchase software.
- FREE HIRTS AND TIPS.
- FAST RETURNS OR POST SERVICE (if reserves are given).
- ALL GAMES manufactured ORIGINALS with full documentation.
- OVER 12,000 satisfied members.
- EUROPEAN members welcome.
- Life Membership £5.00.
- Fully computerised system keeps track of your order. We pride ourselves in being the most professional Hire Library in the United Kingdom, with staff of 14 who know what the word service means. Backed by our own software company and programmers.

MIDLAND COMPUTER LIBRARY, 28 College Street, Worcester WR1 2LS
Tel: 0905 611072

Please rush me my free catalogue stating machine.

Name.....
Address.....



**LOOKING
FOR KICKS
IN '86?**

THEN DON'T MISS



Britain's top soccer magazine
brings you all the excitement of
soccer every week.

- SUPER COLOUR POSTERS OF THE TOP STARS
- MATCH FACTS - THE WORLD'S GREATEST RESULTS SERVICE WITH RATINGS FOR EVERY PLAYER
- FABULOUS FEATURES THAT ARE BANG UP-TO-DATE
- UP-TO-THE-MINUTE NEWS AND VIEWS FROM YOUR FAVOURITE PLAYERS

AND ALL FOR 42p - AVAILABLE AT
YOUR NEWSAGENTS NOW!
Check us out - you'll find we're on
the ball!



LOOK OUT FOR
MY SPARKLE
RATING

SNODGITS

Use your sleuthing skills against vivid alien detectives. They're all there hunting the slippery Snodgits - drawl like creatures who steal fabric in Lord and Lady Snodgits' ennobled mansion. A must for all bright gamers. Amstrad CPC-484 and Spectrum 48K. Sparkle rating *****

MAD DOCTOR

Here's a chance to create your own monster. No leading - all you have to do is collect the bits. As Dr. Frank Blackenstein you grab unsuspecting passers-by and drag them back to your lab. Create and dangerous - the whole village are after you. Grab your guns and get investigating! Commodore 64. Sparkle rating *****

White Viper

A real snake of a game that's there are white bones to tame, ghostly henchmen to overcome and a nasty Wizard to out-think. But the rewards are high - the kind of a smashing jetpack and your very own kingdom. For only £1.99 - they must be pretty! Commodore 64. Sparkle rating *****

KIDNAP

Babies in space! Kidnap an evil alien has kidnapped tiny Earthlings and frozen them in suspended animation. You must rescue them from their fate. Bizarre, unlikely creatures are on guard - you need all your skill to defeat them. Utterly captivating! Spectrum 48K. Sparkle rating *****

**DANGEROUS
IN DOUBLE TROUBLE**

Help the super soccer star overcome Baron Greenback's latest plot. The evil villain is building an advanced Dangermouse. You must stop him and defeat the danger. This game is not for the average! Commodore 64 and Spectrum 48K. Sparkle rating *****

Tower of Evil

Have you ever fought a Baphomet? Well, they are no pushovers. They guard where the Powers are imprisoned and have some equally horrendous friends. Poor old Princess Diana - locked away in the clutches of the Necromancer. You are her only hope. Commodore 64. Sparkle rating *****

AVAILABLE FROM ALL GOOD SOFTWARE STORES

Write PL Amstrad/Mail Summit Centre Southwood, Farnborough, Hants GU14 0NP Tel: 0252 522000

Sparklers

ocean

**WORLD PUBLISHER OF
COMPUTER SOFTWARE
OFFERS YOU A GREAT
CHANCE TO**

KEY INTO SUCCESS

With tremendous opportunities for
FIRST CLASS PROGRAMMERS

in the fields of

**SOFTWARE DEVELOPMENT
PROGRAM TRANSLATION
GAMES DESIGN**

Expansion in all the Group's activities
requires constant **HIGH QUALITY SOFTWARE**
and we now

URGENTLY REQUIRE

products for Autumn/Winter 1986.
If you would like to work with the Best for
Maximum Reward either Directly or on a
Freelance Basis contact in confidence:
Software Development Manager

ocean

6 Central Street, Manchester M2 5NS.

Tel: 061 832 6633 Telex: 669977

Completed programs also wanted for:

SPECTRUM · AMSTRAD · COMMODORE 64 · C16

ATARI · BBC and ELECTRON Micras

Cash or Royalty Payments · Immediate Decision

CONTACT US TODAY!

MAGIC DISK KIT



**Why pay repair bills
when you can solve or
prevent most of your
1541 and 1570 disk
drive problems
for only £19.95**

Every time you use your
disk drive the protection
on your software bangs
your playing head,
eventually knocking it out
of place. Now with our
very easy to use Magic
Disk Kit with a clear book
of tips you can remedy
head alignment faults
and give simply
maintenance to your
machine to give better
performance and longer
life.

Available from good
computer shops or:-

Robtek

Robtek Ltd. Unit 4, Isleworth Business Complex
St. John's Road, Isleworth, Middx. TW7 6NL
Telephone: 01-847 4457

I.D.E.A.S CENTRAL

(NERVE CENTRE OF IDEAS CORP)

Welcome to IDEAS CENTRAL. My name is Melissa Ravenflame, I.C. co-ordinator. IDEAS CENTRAL is where you'll find the Bug Hunters' HQ and the man who keeps those rogue robots in order — Jackson T. Kalliber. Jackson makes sure OTISS, Big Red, X and B-Con get out there to find the hints, tips and pokes you all so desperately need for a happy existence. Don't tell them — but I can't rely on them to make a good job of it.

So the IDEAS CORPORATION and yours truly, Melissa R., need YOUR help. Remember, the IDEAS CORP will pay a large amount of credits to anyone assisting our enquiries. So, send your hints and cheats to Melissa Ravenflame, IDEAS CENTRAL, Computer + Video Games, Priory Court 30-32 Farringdon Lane, London EC1R 3AU.



MINDER

Mark Cockayne heard the plea for help with 'Minder' and has written in with this hint. To get Terry to mind you just say "Minder", Terry will then reply "OK, but it will cost £100 a day". Answer "Yes" and wherever you go Terry will follow you for that day. In return Mark would like some help with *Elite* for the Spectrum — he wants to know around which planet he will find the Space Dredger?

POKE FOR THE MSX!!!

Yes, I know all you MSX owners think that this must be a mis-print, but we do have one poke for Ocean's *Hunchback*. Type the program and Run. Then put *Hunchback* into the data recorder and press play.
10 BLOAD "CAS:"
20 POKE — 28370,0
30 DEFUSR = &H9000
40 A = USR (0)

If this doesn't work, blame Brian Lafersonne of Merseyside.

COMMODORE

Another regular to I.C. is E Nieland of Holland. This time he has sent in the codes for two games.

The first one is 'A View to a Kill' City Hall = CCPHJ
Siicon Valley = DB4CT
Finale = ILVCT

STARQUAKE

These codes will let you teleport from one place to another.

1 = Sigma 2 = Astra 3 = Hylis
4 = Kappa 5 = Femur 6 = Chasm
7 = Malis 8 = Metre 9 = Xenon
10 = Cosin 11 = Plasm 12 =
Optic 13 = Polar 14 = Z.A.P. 15 = Meson

ATARI & C64

Dropzone — have you ever been killed by a nasty volcanic eruption, swamped by lava, or boiled by hot rocks, well fret no more!

When you start, collect all the men except for one and place them on the dropzone. Now collect the final man and hold on to him — he is the key! Now battle the aliens, and even if they are so nasty that they kill all the other men in the zone, an earthquake cannot happen because you are holding on to the last man. If you die, pick up the man straight away as he must not die.

SPYHUNTER

When you start moving move over to the side of the road and very slowly push towards the grass. If you are lucky your car will travel on the grass and not be attacked by any of the enemies, but they will run into the side of the road and blow up.

Sometimes your points do not go up when you are on the handshoulder, but the above

method can be used to get out of a tricky situation.

HELP

Matthew Drinkwater has the Commodore version of *Young Ones* and has become completely stuck. Anyone able to help him? Rick? Neil?

Anyone! Who has pokes for the Amstrad 6128 version of *Jet Set Willy 2*? Master Wilson of Suffolk would be very grateful if you could write and let him have them.

ZORRO

Another regular contributor to Ideas Central is Mark Hula. Here he offers you some help with the Amstrad version of *Zorro* — he thinks that they will work just as well on the C64 version.

At the start screen collect the hanky which the fair maiden has dropped. Go down the well and jump across the floating balls and onto the next screen, which has various lift layouts. Go down this screen and onto the next.

Fall down to the bottom of the screen and go right.

You will gradually gain height. When you think you are high enough, push right and you will land on the ledge. Pick up the tree in a pot and go left.

By using the trampolines you will make your way up the screen, until you are on the

screen with the lifts.

Climb up the ladders and hit the boulder which will roll and place a lift next to you. Jump on this and put the tree down. The lifts will move once more and you will find an open door. (This is useful later on in the game).

Return to the "well" screen and go right and right again. You will be on a screen with a key, bottle and sofa. Collect the key, jump on the sofa and use it like a trampoline, and bounce right.

Go to the top and jump left — taking you back on the screen you had just left. Walk into the black door and the key will unlock it.

Jump the gap and you will automatically pick up the bottle. Go to the bottom of the screen and go left, where you will see a man sitting on the bar.

Press fire button and you give him the bottle and he becomes drunk!

Line yourself up with his feet and push up on the joystick and you will gain height which will eventually lead you to a ledge.

Go up the ladder on the left and a guard will appear from a door. Force him over the edge of the ledge towards the chandelier which in turn pulls up the crate leaving a hole in the ground. Go down this hole and you will be on the screen with the boulder.

IDEAS CENTRAL

SPECIAL REPORT

The wreckage of a Psi 5 Trading Company Starfreighter has been recovered from near the Parvian Frontier. Evidence suggests it fell victim to space pirates and marauders who prey on space lanes, reducing the settlers and entrepreneurs who exploit the rich mining deposits in this wild frontier to panic.

Among the debris was the captain's log. Although incomplete, the log contains information and advice which could help future starfreighter captains selected to try and get supplies through to this hazardous part of the universe.

US Gold, partners in the Psi 5 Trading Company, has allowed Ideas Central to print selections from the recovered log, in the interests of inter-galactic safety.



Your mission: To survive as a Psi 5 Trading Company starfreighter captain will test your management skills, nerve and leadership qualities to the very limit.

After choosing your cargo and course to the Parvian Frontier, you must then select the best crew possible. Standard starfreighter instructions will help but this recovered log should add even more to your skills.

STRATEGY:

There is no one way or strategy to win at Psi 5. In fact, strategies will change as your performance increases. As you move on to the next difficulty level—selecting a more difficult destination—you may have to use a previously developed strategy.

CONSOLE INDICATORS

Weapons: The Psi-5 freighter has four weapons systems—Missiles, Blasters,

Thermos and Canteens.

Each weapon system has a status light on the console.

If the weapon system is operational and ready it is coloured. If the system is non-operational the light is removed. If the system has just fired, the light flashes white.

Shields: There are four defensive force field shields that surround the Psi-5 ship. The console shield indicators show a bar for each shield. If the shield is operational it shows as a white bar. If the shield is damaged, but still providing protection it shows as a red bar. If the shield is not operational the bar is not displayed.

The shield battery strength indicator is shown as a dot in one of the shield indicators. If the dot is not present the shield battery is completely discharged and the shields are useless. If the dot blinks there is less than a 20 per cent charge.

Power: The power section of the console shows two bar graphs, Supply and Demand and a battery active light. Emergency Battery.

The Demand graph (labelled D) shows the total amount of electrical power the different ship subsystems are requesting. A breakdown of these sub-systems power demand can be seen by using the DISPLAY command in Engineering. There is a small fixed amount of overhead demand that is required by the ship that is not represented by the subsystems.

The Supply graph (labelled S) shows the total power being generated by the Psi-5 ship.

Power can be contributed from four sources: 1) Bulk construction code required Yhtak perpetual generator (reliably supplies power to ship core functions and equal to above fixed demand).

2 and 3) Main power reactors.

4) Emergency Battery if enabled and holds a charge.

If the Demand graph exceeds the Supply graph some of the ship sub-systems will automatically be shut down. As power becomes available, the systems will be automatically restored.

Scanners: There is a single information scanner indicator light on the console.

The indicator light is on if the scanners are operational. Scanners are used for SCAN EXAMINE research to fill in Class, Enemy ships damage, and suggested weapon and NAV STATUS research to fill in Risks. The light can be off if Info Scanners become broken (Repair Item) or for lack of power (Item D on ENG, DISPLAY not ranked high enough or broken power reactors).

Compass: The ships compass indicator shows the ship's current deviation from mission course. It can be used to verify course changes and evasive action.

Speed: The ship speed indicator displays the current gross speed. It can differ from the requested speed because of lack of power, damage to engines (require need), or acceleration changes.

The net speed (actual speed towards destination) is not directly available. Net speed can differ from gross speed when using evasive manoeuvring.

Messages: There is one message indicator for each of the five departments. These indicators show the letter abbreviation for the department if messages are pending for that department. The ships computer can save up to eight pending messages for each department.

Joystick shortcuts: Shortcuts have been added for joystick users to quickly perform "Quick-Exit" and "Delete" functions.

Quick-Exit: Push joystick forward and press the button. This is equivalent to the CLR CLR HOME key or Apple's +/ - key.

Delete: Pull the joystick back and press the button. This is equivalent to the keyboards DELETE key.

Acknowledge Message Enhancements CLR: CLR stands for CLEAR. The CLR command erases all pending messages. This is useful when you get behind in reading crew member messages and want to start fresh.

AUTO: AUTO stands for Automatic messages. Auto messages can be ENABLED or DISABLED. When ENABLED all crew messages immediately interrupt the captain and are displayed. If DISABLED (the default) crew messages are saved by the ships computer until the captain has a chance to acknowledge (read) them.



Jackson has sent out the "boys" to collect pokes for some of your favourite games. So, eyes down and fingers set at the keyboards here we go with the first poke, which is for the Amstrad, from Paul Holdaway

FINDERS KEEPS By pass the Basic

Header, then type—

10 OPENVOLT "D"

20 MEMORY 2047

30 LOAD "FK"

40 POKE 8398,0

50 CALL 2047

ANCIPITAL for the Commodore from

Michael Vanslembrout

Type load instead of SHIFT RUN STOP

When ready appears enter the following:

POKE 1011,245 POKE 1012,252 The type

RUN

After loading, the computer will reset.

Then enter POKE 18679,173 SYS 16384. You

now have infinite lives.

RASPUTIN — To cheat, freeze the game F5.

Then type DAINN followed by 2 numbers for

numbers.

GERRY THE GERM — Reset then type

POKE 2307,1 then sys 2304 + and - keys to

change screens.

MONY ON THE RUN — when asked to

input your name type I want to cheat; press

return and then choose your freedom kit. You

will need numbers 2,4,12,13,14 to complete

the game.

BOUNDER — Press keys Q and Z and space.

Hold them down for a minute and part of the

screen goes red, you are now ready to start the

game. Thanks to John Knight for the last two

Commodore tips.

Now for the Spectrum, from J Belt.

NIGHTSHADE — type in and run from start

of tape. 10 for F+1 07 S LOAD "CODE"

NEXT F POKE 53442,0 POKE 53443,12

ENDVOLT "F" 23424

GUNFRIGHT — Type in and start tape at

the beginning.

10 LOAD "CODE" LOAD "CODE" LOAD

"CODE" PRINT USR 24576 LOAD "LOAD"

"CODE" LOAD "CODE" POKE

23445,201 PRINT USR 23424 POKE

23446,33

20 POKE 42335,0 POKE 46344,0 POKE

48464,0 POKE 48544,0 POKE 49745,0

PRINT USR 23446

SWEENEY WORLD — Type MERGE and

edit the line and enter in front of the

randomize USR instruction POKE 37008,255

and don't forget to put: after it. Press enter

and run for 255 lives.

STARSTRIFE — Load and press. Type 1

WANDA (GREAT with the spaces) Give you

infinite shields. Press space again to start

playing.

GYROSCOPE — The MERGE and put in

front of the Randomize USR instructions

POKE 53992,0 for infinite lives and poke

82138,201 for infinite time.

Here are a couple of goodies from Michael

Lacey. On Rambo when the message Your

presence has been relayed to enemy HQ — a

gunship is now on course and in pursuit

appears — select Backer Launcher, press

Return and Push Forward on the joystick.

You now move twice as fast and see no enemy

gunships. On Kung-Fu Master, face left and

press shift and G together to obtain a

handgun. Keep pressing shift and G

together for rapid fire. (or level 1 only)

Finally on Winter Games on the Figure

skating, keep facing left and falling over to

obtain a maximum of 5.0 when the time is up.

Rosanna Weersinghe has infinite lives pokes

for the BBC

MR EE — When the title page loads in, press

BREAK Then *LOAD MR EE when load

type: 791ECB + EA, CALL 4300

SNAPPER — When SNAP2 finishes loading

press ESCAPE 457 FDD + 477 Run.

HOCKEY RAID — Play the game and when

you crash press BREAK, CALL 4300.

When you die after three lives, a long crash

will happen. After this you will have infinite

lives.

NOW

ON THE AMSTRAD/
COMMODORE 64/128

TO HEAR THE FULL
STORY RING 00771 1156

NUMBERS IN THE HOPKINS AREA COUNDED BY ST MARY

DOOMDARK'S REVENGE

BEYOND

Mike Singleton

R.R.P.
9.95

FEATURING A SPECIAL AUDIO CASSETTE
WITH THE FULL STORY OF DOOMDARK'S REVENGE

Doomdark's Revenge is more than adventure, mightier than a war game. 6,144 locations, 48,000 screen views, 128 characters and 128 objects to collect. There are ice lords, barbarians, dwarves, key and giants to meet. Bitter weather conditions and welcoming torches to guide you through caverns.

It's a game for one or more players whose skill alone will determine victory or defeat.

Doomdark's Revenge is available now from software dealers everywhere. In case of difficulty write to: Beyond, British Telecom, Wellington House, Upper St. Martin's Lane, LONDON WC2H 9DL.



ARCADE

● EMPIRE CITY

It's April 10, 1931, in the mean and shadowy streets of downtown New York. Here there are furtive, whispered conversations in doorways, blinds twitch at windows and the spasmodic rat-a-tat of gunfire is heard in the distance. Turned up collars and snap-brims pulled well down over foreheads set the scene in gangsterland.

Suddenly a woman's scream shatters the silence. Now is the moment, you've been waiting for. Squinting through the gun sights you scan the immediate area. Nothing. Moving to the right in the direction of a large blue arrow the sights rest on a mean-looking hood pushing a trembling woman before him at gunpoint.

There's no time to lose as a speech bubble starts a countdown from five. Quick, you've got to kill him before zero is reached. Blam! Blam! Bullets fly but the wrong one reaches its target. The screen goes slowly red as you hit the deck, grovelling face down in the muck. Like a cat with three lives, you try again. The woman screams once more, but once again you're not quick enough and end up eating dirt. For the third time you try it, the game's hardly started and it looks as if they're going to cart you away feet first.

This time you know where your foe is. The sights rest on his head and you fire a quick burst. The bullet goes home and a splatter of red is shown briefly amongst the white marks of missed targets. Saved by the bullet. The girl goes free and you continue your search but this time there are no screams to locate the gangsters. Only arrows, and you can't rely on them too heavily.

The arrows show you the general direction in which you should be looking. However, it's up to you to search the area for the gun-toting villains. Sometimes

C+VG's Arcade Spy, Clare Edgeley, enters the shadowy underworld of *Empire City* and discovers that she's no match for the da Boss. She also takes a look at the arcades' latest nappy clad hero — Wonder Boy.



they'll be hiding in second or third storey windows, on rooftops or in doorways. If you stray out of the area an arrow will put you back on the right track. There's not much time to search the area, and if you take too long the dreaded speech bubble appears with the countdown to death.

If you need help picturing *Empire City: 1931*, then think of Melbourne House's *Mugsy*. Although *Empire City* is very much an arcade game, it is graphically very similar to *Mugsy* with stills of the streets and characters and not much animation. That doesn't detract from the game, all the action is done at your end of the joystick, first while looking for the baddies and then by shooting them. Having said that, in the second level which is played on May 5, 1931 (another day, another killing) and gangsters dart out from behind buildings and you'll find it harder to locate and



then take out the moving target before he disappears.

Eventually you're bound to cop it. It's a nice touch that when you eventually catch that bullet, the screen pans over to the character who shot you — so the next time round you'll know where he's lurking. Once you've hit the ground the next screen shows you looking up into the face of your killer — fabulous graphics — and then it reverts to a long shot showing you dead, lying amongst the trash cans.

Fast moving, with lots of action — it's all up to you. This unusual and addictive game is bound to be a winner.

● WONDER BOY

Dressed to kill in nappies and a motorbike helmet, with a skateboard as his trusty steed and wielding a stone axe, *Wonder Boy* is born — ready to fight off the nastiest of nasties, willing to leap the widest chasm, and eager to risk his life.

Yes, if you've got problems, *Wonder Boy* is your answer. And judging from the sickly-sweet title screen, it involves an equally young lady at the far end of this mighty quest. No doubt, she too wears a matching nappy.

Wonder Boy reminds me of *Super Mario Brothers*, though it's not as complicated, but just as playable. Moving from left to right you've got to leap obstacles while collecting pieces of fruit for extra points. The first screen is very easy and leads you nicely into the game. Leap over snakes, bonfires, snails and bees and at the same time collect the fruit.

Right at the very beginning is an enormous egg. Crack it and a stone axe is revealed. This can be thrown at any nasties in your path eliminating them before they get



MADE ACTION



you. You may also find a skateboard. Once on this, *Wonder Boy* literally charges forward — he can still leap objects, but should he come into contact with, say, one of the numerous outcrops of rock, he'll lose his charger and will have to continue on foot.

Next is a hill with boulders tumbling down it in sequence (it reminds me of *BC's Quest for Tires* from Software Projects — an idea which must originally have come from one of the early arcade games.) The boulders are easy to jump if you don't get carried away by all that tempting fruit. Jump for a piece of fruit and a boulder will roll down and catch you before you have time to leap again. Unlike *Eye*, leave well alone.

Once over the hill, crack another egg and an angel appears.

Whizzing around waving her wand to some revolting music she eventually settles on your shoulder bringing peace, happiness and bonus points. While she's in residence you can walk past all the nasties without fear, scoring extra points as they die.

Next we get to the cliff edge — very like *Super Mario Bros.* here. Leap the charms and jump from ledge to ledge using some as lifts to get you to a higher or lower ledge. There are still objects to avoid and you do have your axe for protection.

Whenever you see an egg, open it, as it always has something for you. In the top left-hand corner of the screen there's a picture of the axe, a pendant, a perfume bottle and a slipper. Presumably you have to collect these in route if you're to reach your childhood sweetheart. I didn't get that far.

The second level is played in much the same way, though this time you have to use the clouds as levels to stop you tumbling into the sea — and the waiting arms of an octopus. It is a little harder and you'll have to time your jumps better. Once over the ocean and on to dry land, more surprises await you.

If you want to break from wargaming, you can't go wrong with *Wonder Boy*, it requires skill, timing and is good, clean fun.

● TROJAN

Following the success of *Ghosts 'n' Goblins*, Capcom has repeated the winning formula to produce *Trojan* — a game so similar that at first glance it could be mistaken for its predecessor.

Graphics and gameplay are very much the same, as is the loud rousing jingle which beats throughout. The only real difference is in the storyline and the series of obstacles and characters you have to overcome.

The topic is futuristic, set in the aftermath of a nuclear war you must defeat the army of thugs, and the brutal king who leads them.

According to the blurb, you have mastered all the martial arts, and single handed you are going to lift the land from its reign of terror. In fact, far from using martial arts, you tend to rely heavily on your trusty sword and shield, and when you have lost those you tend to be pretty helpless.

The graphics are detailed, colourful illustrations, and the post-nuclear mutant mohicans with their purple hairstyles are a sight to behold. They're also crafty fighters and are the first batch of thugs you come across in the mean city streets at the start of the game.

Like *Ghosts 'n' Goblins*, the nasties tend to rush you in groups and you'll find them coming at you from behind as well as in front.

Now's the time for a spot of action. Your sword snarls out and dispatches them with the greatest of ease, but watch out for the one under the manhole — the arrow he fires at you has to be jumped. And keep an eye on the choppie throwing fire crackers from a window above — they'll put you out of action for a while.

And now onto the skinheads. Two of these lovable creatures jump down, one on either side, giving you very little chance to fight back as they club you senseless. The skins seem more difficult than the mohicans, and so it goes on throughout the game. The trail eventually takes you into an industrial area, to a warehouse full of pipes and levels connected by lifts. Travel up and down to the various floors killing the baddies en route. A difficult task, I warn you — they tend to spring out of nowhere,



blocking your escape route.

Other than clubs, some thugs carry knives and also a nasty little weapon which leaves you defenceless on contact. Any time you see a red ball winging through the air, duck or jump it.

After many leagues, and even more scraps and fights, you'll enter a forest. Remember, leaves aren't the only things which drop out of trees. The end of your quest is marked when you near the evil king's castle.

With its marvellous graphics and the many obstacles overcome, you'll have no complaints with *Trojan*, especially if you're a newcomer to the *Ghosts 'n' Goblins* type scenario.



YOU AND THE ENEMY — ONLY ONE OF YOU WILL SURVIVE

Your *ACE* (All Weather-All Terrain) jet stands fully fuelled and fully armed. A vast invasion fleet is anchored just off your shores. Ground forces have come ashore and are advancing on your positions protected by massive air cover.

You are the last fighter pilot. Your country turns to you and asks... "Are you good enough to be called an **ACE**?"

VERSION 1.0
252500
SIMULATOR
OF THE YEAR
SPECTRUM DISK VERSION £995
C+ PLUS DISK VERSION £1295
PLUS NEW PLUS VERSION

THE · ULTIMATE · COMBAT · JET · SIMULATOR

FREE
WITH
EVERY
COPY
POSTER



Featuring tanks, helicopters, hills, trees, ships and a totally unique refuelling sequence **ACE** is the fastest, most exciting air combat game available. With twin flying mode (using two joysticks) you can fly and fight with your friend as weapons men.

ACE — THERE IS NO OTHER GAME LIKE IT!



Cascade Games Ltd.,
Harrington,
HQ1 5BG,
England.
Telephone:
(0423) 504663

Screen shots are taken from the 64 version. 16 and VIC20 do not have ground objects.

Available from all good software suppliers or direct from
Cascade Games Ltd. for orders over £100 or for cash orders
over £100. For more information contact us on 0423 504663
CASCAD GAMES LTD
DISK £1295
CASSSETTE £995
PLUS POSTAGE

THE BUGHUNTERS

HAVE STORMED IDEAS CENTRAL. THEY ARE ON THE 67TH FLOOR. IT IS THE EXPERIMENTAL WEAPONS SECTION...AND THEY'VE JUST MET...

SHERMAN

APART FROM THE ILLEGAL GAME OF GODTM IN PARLOUR, GARIBALDI USED TO RUN ROBOT PRIZE FIGHTS! SHERMAN WAS HIS BEST BOY...

NOT BECAUSE HE WAS GOOD... NO, SHERMAN HAD THIS GLASS JAW... COULDN'T TAKE A PUNCH... BUT GARIBALDI KEPT ON HIRING HIM FOR THE MAIN EVENTS...



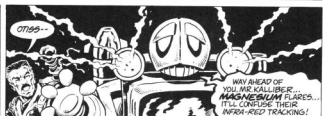
HE EVEN PROMOTED HIM AS 'SHERMAN THE INVINCIBLE'! REALLY PULLED IN THE CROWDS... COURSE, GARIBALDI WAS PLACING SIDE BET ON SHERMAN LOSING...

MUST HAVE MADE A FORTUNE! SHERMAN HERE, WAS MORE THAN A BIT PEEVED WHEN HE FINALLY FOUND OUT... SAID HE WAS GONNA MASH ANYONE WHO WAS INVOLVED...



THAT'S RIGHT! AND GUESS WHAT?? JUST BEFORE I MASHED GARIBALDI, HE TOLD ME YOU WERE IN ON THE SCAM TOO... SO THIS IS GONNA BE A PLEASURE...







YA KNOW SOMETHING, BOYS... IT'S BEEN AGES SINCE I ENJOYED A REALLY GOOD FIST FIGHT... BUT I SUPPOSE RUST BUCKETS LIKE YOU JUST AIN'T GOT THE OIL FOR IT...



THE HELL WE HAVEN'T... LET'S DO IT!!



SREEEE



THE NEXT TIME YOU DECIDE TO HAVE AN ESCAPE PLAN... MAKE SURE I'VE ALREADY ESCAPED! MY NERVES CAN'T TAKE THIS...



X! HE'S STRANGLING ME! HELP!



THAT MUST BE THE MAN'S SUITE! WITHOUT OTIS IT COULD TAKE FOREVER TO ACCESS THE ENTRY CODE...

THEN WE'LL HAVE TO BE A LITTLE LESS SUBTLE...



O.K. YOU SON OF A BITCH... SHOW YOURSELF!...



BY ALL MEANS, MS. RAVENFLAME...

HOLY...



ALTHOUGH I SHOULD WARN YOU... I DON'T THINK YOU'RE GOING TO LIKE WHAT YOU FIND!

CONTINUED--NEXT MONTH!

MICROSELL

MICROSELLS - It costs only £1 to advertise in Microsell!

Atari games to sell or swap, cassette only. Games include Zorro, Kennedy Approach, Bruce Lee and many more. Please send list of offers to: Richard, 5 Barton Fields, Ecton, Northampton NN6 0QA.

Prism VTX 5000 model for sale or swap for mirage microdriver or Multiface one. Modern for use on Spectrums and you can get on to Micronet 8000 only £30. Contact: R. Fawcett, Arthur's Seat, War Coppice Rd, Caterham, Surrey CR3 6AS.

CBM64 + C2N + competition pro + over £320 of tape software (Unidrum, Mercenary etc) + Nearly new 1541 + Epyx fastload cartridge + £65 of disk games (LCP, Hitch Hiker's, Koronis Rift). Worth over £700. The lot for £420. Phone Great Missenden 3273 after 5pm.

Apple 11E. For sale Kage 12" Green Screen Monitor. 2 disk drives: interface card: 80 column card: Micro Soft Soft card. £500. Tel: 096 274 208.

For Sale: Simons basic Currah Speech and Trojan Light Pen. All for CBM64, £50 for all 3. Write to M. Povey, 20 Vicar Road, Wath Upon Dearne, South Yorkshire S63 6QA. Also pen-pals wanted to swap tape games and ideas with.

Commodore 64 and Atari software to swap Disk only. All the latest titles. Send your list in return for mine to Andrew, 19 Herondale Avenue, Birkenhead, Merseyside, L43 7UH.

Commodore 64 software to swap on disk and tape. Many new titles. Please write soon. Send to S. Robbins, 9 Baytree Close, Backford Cross, S. Wirral, L86 2XZ or ring me on 051 339 5190.

48K Spectrum Kempston interface quickshot joystick, 65 games, £480 worth. Total value £600, swap for Amstrad (Colour Monitor). Contact Paul Turk, Bunninver, Brinallack, Letterkenny, Co Donegal, Ireland (Distance no problem, delivery arranged).

Spectrum Plus, with Ferguson data recorder, joystick, plus interface, 100 magazines, 300 games (Bomb Jack, Green Beret, Ping Pong etc). Worth

£800. Sell £185. Phone Colin after 6pm on 0475 26554 for details.

48K Spectrum with manuals and leads, DK Tronics keyboard, Comcon programmable interface with quickshot 2 + 2 joystick, Spectrum Digital Drum Kit, Port Extension Interface, lots of magazines and software. Value £700+ including many of the latest titles. All in excellent working order. £200 ono for quick sale. Tel: Watford 41109.

Commodore 64 software to swap. I have many new games from USA, England and Holland. Write to Henrik Hansen, Rudolph Berghs Gade 37, 2100 Copenhagen, Denmark.

New Spectrum + with quickshot 2 joystick. 7 games such as Monkey Business, Quickshot. Tel: 0827 896945 after 5pm. Will sell for £100 including data recorder.

Spectrum + in good condition with £130 worth of original software inc. Fist, Spitfire 40 and Winter Games. Also a Doodler lightpen, switchable interface, Quickshot 2 joystick, Ferguson Data recorder and a Doubler Mk2 and many magazines. Cost £350. Sell for £150 or swap for Commodore 64 with tape deck and joystick. Phone Stocton, Cleveland 06421 565141 after 4pm.

Commodore 64/128 software: 100s of titles to swap or sell, some of which have been previously unleased. All the latest software. If interested scribble to: M. Roberts, 64 Rectory Lane, Breadsall, Derby DE7 6AL. All letters answered.

Will swap C64 music studio (D) for Activision Game maker (Disk) or Gilsoft's illustrator (Disk). Cash also considered. Originals only please. Phone (0742) 694046 after 5pm. Ask for Leigh or leave message.

Boxed MTX500, tape deck, over £100 software, books and mags. Worth over £400 new, will sell for £100 ono. Any offer or swap considered. Tel: (0325) 463966 after 6pm.

For Sale: complete computer outfit including: Dragon 32 computer, black and white portable TV, tape recorder, and

computer tables. Comes complete with games and magazines. Ideal for beginner! £150 ono. Tel: Derby 778050 and ask for Darren.

Vectrex for sale. Plus 10 games eg. Solar Quest, Rip Off, Bedlam, Hypercase, Spike, Clean Sweep, Berzerk, Starship, Cosmic Chasm, Scramble. £50. Buyer collects. Tel: 0223 (Cambridge) 60141.

Amstrad 464 with Green Screen, plus colour modulator, two joysticks £300 of software, including Elite, Rambo, plus mags all overhauled for 1600 for only £280. Phone 0282 57801 after 5pm.

Amstrad pen pals wanted from all over the world to swap ideas and software. All letters answered. A. Kham, 142 Broadstone Way, Bradford, West Yorkshire, BD4 9BU.

Atari software for sale — all originals. Disks — Dallas Quest, Bruce Lee, Mercenary, cassettes — all Level 9 adventures, some Scott Adams, some Arcade. Also selection of cartridges. All £5 each. Tel: 0968 78465 after 7pm or weekends.

Electron Computer, plus 1 interface, joystick (Quickshot). Leads, manuals, books, tons of games cart. (inc Elite), and all but 2 Electron User to date and others. £200 ono/inc £35 Acorn data recorder. Perfect condition. Phone: Adam 01-904 4519 6pm-9pm.

Commodore 64 with cassette unit, over £400 worth of software, dust cover, back up device, plus breadsall. Worth £500, only £130. Phone: 0993 841182 after 6pm. Ask for Ken.

Bargain: 48K Spectrum Plus, boxed, with leads, manual and magazines. Over £55 of software, inc Elite, Bombjack Atari 2600 video console system with inc Pac Man and Space Invaders. Also Atari includes paddles, joystick and video touchpad. All worth over £300. Will sell for £120 for quick sale. Excellent condition. Phone: 01-435 1281. Will sell separately.

BBC B Bargain software, all originals. Titles include: Elite, Hypersports, Yie Ar Kung Fu, Beach head, Alien 8 and many

more. Price £3-£6. Also a brand new additive game of skill not in the shops: Crown Green Bowls £4. Ring Rotherham (0709) 546261 and ask for Mark.

Commodore 64 originals to sell. My games include Summer Games II, Mercenary, Frankie Goes to Hollywood, Robin of the Wood, Rambo and many more. Ring 0298 77641 and ask for Rob.

CBM64 software to swap. Send your list for mine to Kenneth Taylor, 4 Masterick Heng, Aberdeen, Scotland AB2 5GF. Tel: 0224 690751. Disk only.

CBM 64 software. Fight Night, Ancipital, Dig Dog, Rocky, Horror Show, World Series Baseball, Moon Cresta, Wizards Lair and Who Dares Wins — £4 each, also cartridges. Pole position, Miss Pacman and Centipede £4 each. Tel: 0630 57129.

Swap: Brand new Amstrad 6128 eprom programmer (cost £34.95) for "The Hitch-Hikers Guide to the Galaxy" adventure game. It must be complete and original. Telephone: (0532) 537507 after 6pm. Ask for Robert.

BBC Computer: 29 games including Elite, Knightlore, Way of the Exploding, first 2 books. Good condition. Altogether worth £469, selling for £280 ono. 142 St Albans Road, Arnold, Nottingham. Tel: 203088.

VIC 20 for sale with C2N recorder, 16K switchable ram, 19 games, 2 cartridges. £80 ono. 3 Ryefield Rd, Sale, Cheshire M33 4WE. Tel: 061 962 3575.

CBM 64. I'm looking for the newest stuff! Send your list to M. Cruick, Durenmeers, 28.8—9600 Ronsse. Have all the new things!!

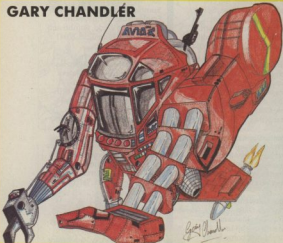
CBM 64 games to swap, many titles. Please send your list for mine. Write to Neil, 7 Chichester Close, Gateshead, Tyne & Wear, England N38 1NN, or Tel: (091) 477 4725.

20 BBC-B games. All originals, worth £150, will sell for £50. Titles include Speech, Castile Quest and Wizard. Ring (0773) 763950 after 5pm and ask for Ben.

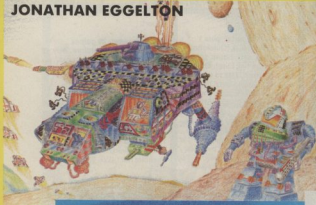
URIDIUM CONTEST

Wow! That was B-Con's response to the amazing artwork which arrived in the Ideas Penthouse after our Hewson's Uridium art contest. We asked you to draw your own Uridium spaceship. And that's just what hundreds and hundreds of you did. Here are just a few of the incredible entries that B-Con had to judge wearing his dark glasses!

GARY CHANDLER



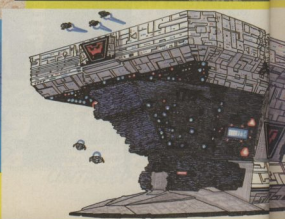
JONATHAN EGGELTON



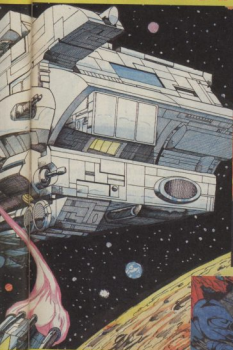
FOKKEMA



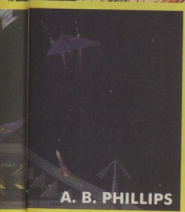
SINCLAIR ELLIOT



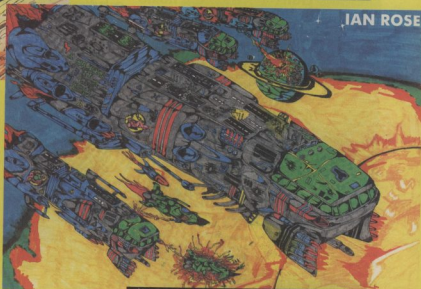
COMPETITION RESULTS



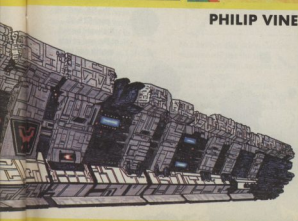
HENRY PULLA



A. B. PHILLIPS



IAN ROSE



PHILIP VINE



DANNY THIE

URIDIUM

EXTRA BITS

Will you please welcome back C+VG's ex-Bug Hunter **ROBERT SCHIFFREEN** for the first in a new series of his informative Extra Bits articles. Robert's been away doing terribly serious things in the world of business computers but now he's back and bringing you news about all the latest things you can add-on, plug in and generally interface with your home computer.

AMSTRAD LIGHT PEN

A light pen is now available for the *Amstrad 8256* and *8512* machines. It plugs into the expansion port on the monitor, so you don't need a separate interface. Included in the package is a graphics program which lets you create masterpieces on the screen and then save, edit or print them.

The software package is similar to *Dr Draw* and other art programs. It has a number of different sized paint brushes, a spray can, line drawing facilities and automatic filling, among other features.

The pictures produced are compatible with *Mirrorsoft's Fleet Street Editor*, which means that you can edit and refine your creation using the *Fleet Street* package as well as the package supplied with the light pen.

The pen, with software, costs £79.95 for the *8256* and *8512* machines. A light pen has been available for the *CPC* machines for some time, and that is still available at £19.95 on cassette or £29.95 on disk.

More details from The Electric Studio, PO Box 96, Luton LU3 2JP or call them on 0582-595222.

AWKWARD ROMS

Vine Micros has just announced a write protect switch for sideways RAM on a *BBC MASTER*. Some ROMs write to themselves when you use them, in an attempt to increase copy protection. Normally, trying to write to a ROM will have no effect, but if the ROM has been copied into sideways RAM, the copy will be overwritten and will not work. The write protect switch costs £8.95 and allows you to run even the most awkward ROMs in sideways. The switch only protects sideways memory, and not the normal RAM of the Beeb.

Also just announced by *Vine* is a battery-backed RAM and clock board for the Beeb. This stores

the system's current settings in a memory which is not lost when the computer is turned off. So function key definitions, printer commands, baud rate settings and so on can be kept without having to type a string of 'FX' commands every time you turn on.

This costs around £45, and more details on both products can be obtained from *Vine Micros* at Marshborough, Mr. Sandwich, Kent CT13 0PG or call 0304-812276. Your local Beeb dealer should have all the details, too.

NEW STORAGE IDEAS

No, it's not a brochure from *Habitat*, but a couple of add-ons for the Beeb from *Viglen*. First, somewhere to store your Beeb's PCB's, keyboard and circuitry.

Yes, I know that the Beeb comes in a pretty cream-coloured case, but *Viglen* want you to forget all that.

Their console unit will take your Beeb (once you've removed the top half of the case), and has room for a disk drive too. The micro's keyboard goes into a separate box,

connected by a cable to the main unit, and the TV sits on the top. The result isn't a better machine, but it does make it look a little like an IBM PC and keeps all the various wires hidden out of the way.

Slightly more useful, though pricey, is a hard disk drive for the Beeb model B, B+ and Master. It holds 20Mbytes, which is about the same as 100 normal floppy disks, and costs £759.00.

Slightly cheaper is a cartridge system for holding Eproms, making it easy to insert and remove EPROM software from a Master. The special connector for the micro comes with two EPROM holders and costs £16.95, and more holders cost £2.99 each. Personally, I'd rather spend the money on buying another EPROM.

If you want to know more, write to *Viglen* at Unit 7, Trumpers Way, Hanwell, London W7 2QA or call 01-843 9903.

PLUS 4 NOT DEAD!

The *Commodore Plus 4* is not dead yet. *Trojan*, who produce a light pen and art package for the 64, are about to launch a version for the Plus 4. It is fully compatible with the

CadMaster package, for the 64, and will cost £19.95. It should be out at the end of this month and your dealer has all the details.

P-40 PROBLEMS

Epson's P-40 printer, a cheap 40-column model, is currently being sold through Boots as well as other retailers. It's certainly not the best printer around, but it is one of the cheapest and it comes with a choice of interfaces that will connect it to just about any micro.

If you have a P-40, or you are thinking about buying one, Epson has produced a free booklet which explains how to link it to a variety of micros and contains some general advice on how to use it to produce program listings and screen dumps.

Call Epson on 01-902 8892 and they'll send you a copy, or drop into your local branch of boots who have lots to give away.

CONNECTIONS

If you've ever tried connecting one computer to another, or one piece of equipment to another, you may have wondered whether there was a shop anywhere that specialised in cables, plugs, connectors and so on. Well, I have found one, and they certainly seem to have a good selection. What's more, everything is usually in stock.

The company is called *Connexions* and is at 125 East Barnet Road, Barnet, Herts. Call them on 01-441 1282 and tell them that I sent you.

NEW C64 SOON

Commodore will be announcing a new version of the 64 soon. It will look like a 128, but with the right hand side chopped off (ie, no numeric keypad). There may

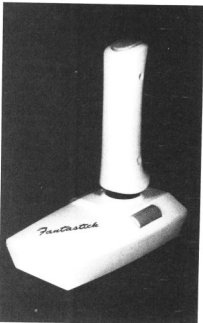


be a built-in disk drive, and the machine will use the GEM operating system, as seen on the Atari ST range.

Commodore will also be bringing out 3.5-inch disk drives soon, but no dates or prices have been announced.

NEW JOYSTICKS

The *Fantastic III* and *Quickshot II Plus* joysticks were launched at



the Commodore show recently. Compatible with many micros, the *Quickshot II Plus* has special suction pads enabling you to use it with just one hand. The brochure doesn't say what you're supposed to do with the free hand though. The grip has been

improved, and an auto-fire button will prove useful. *Quickshot II Plus* will sell at £12.95. *Fantastic III* will be £6.95.

GAME KILLER

Game Killer is a cartridge for the C64 and 128 that allows you to walk through most shooting games without being killed. You may have seen it previewed on BBC's *Micro Live* a few weeks ago.

Many games on the 64 and 128 use sprites, and the computer has a special command that the programmer uses, to work out when two sprites collide. The player is usually made up of one or more sprites on the screen, and enemies are made up of another. What *Game Killer* does is to stop the computer from registering when two sprites collide, so the game does not know when you've been hit. This means that you can walk through gunfire and discover all the screens of a game.

If you enjoy cheating then *Game Killer* may be what you're looking for, but it doesn't work on every game — only those that use sprites. Ask your Commodore dealer for details.

That's about it for this month. If you have anything to say, drop me a line! Write to Extra Bits, Computer and Video Games, Priory Court, Farrington Lane, London EC1R 3AV.

WANTED

THE C+VG GAMES CHAMPION

WANTED — THE C+VG GAMES CHAMPION

The search is on. Big Red, Otiss, X, B-Con, Melissa and the rest of the IDEAS CENTRAL crew are out scouring the country for the games player worthy of the title C+VG GAMES CHAMP 1986!

This is no contest for wimps. Only the best need apply.

Because once you've become the C+VG Champ we'll expect you to uphold the magazine's honour at the National Computer Games

Championship against representatives from the other top computer magazines — like *Crash* and *Zapp* 64. So you know you've got to be good!

The championship is being staged in conjunction with **Mikro Gen** and the qualifying heat will be fought out on *Battle of the Planets* — last year's National Championship final game. To qualify for special entry tape all you have to do is complete the entry form on this page and rush it to *Computer and Video Games*, National Computer Games Championship, Priory Court, 30-32 Farringdon Lane, London EC1R 3AU. Be quick because **ONLY THE FIRST 100** people will get a qualifying tape. The special tapes include a special code which tells us that your hi-score is accurate.

If you're lucky enough to get a tape from us then you have until **July 5th** to register your hi-score. Then the C+VG and Mikro-Gen judges will sort the space cadets from the arcade aces!

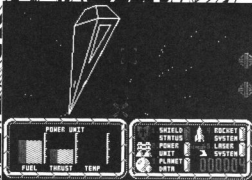
The top scorer will go on to become C+VG's representative at the National Championship later in the year. Interested? Of course you are! So your first move is to post the coupon off at the speed of light. We're waiting for you Champ!

C+VG/MIKRO-GEN SEARCH FOR A CHAMPION

Name

Address

Age..... Computer.....



Try beating our SpecDrum!

£29.95



As featured on
"Micro Live"
and
"Saturday
Superstore"

Spec Drum

Digital Drum System
for the Spectrum

- 8 DIGITALLY RECORDED REAL DRUM SOUNDS
- SIMPLE TO USE - UP AND RUNNING IN ONLY MINUTES
- A TRUE DIGITAL DRUM MACHINE
- REAL TIME* OR ON SCREEN PROGRAMMING
- COMPLETE WITH SOFTWARE
- EXTRA SOUNDS CAN BE LOADED FROM TAPE
- COMPREHENSIVE MANUAL
- THE MOST EXCITING PERIPHERAL EVER DEVELOPED
- DYNAMIC FILING SYSTEM - STORE OVER 1000 PROGRAMMES
- RHYTHMS
- TAPE SYNC FACILITY
- SONGS CAN BE SAVED ON TAPE
- POLYPHONIC
- CREATIVE, EDUCATIONAL AND FUN
- JUST PLUGS IN TO MOST HI FIs



NEW KITS AVAILABLE from £3.99

Available from 200+ High St. Stores and all good computer shops or direct from Cheetah Marketing

Cheetah
Marketing

Chetah Marketing Ltd
PO Box 100, Station Road, Boreham,
Essex, S.S.16 5JH
Tel: 0206 222 1111 Fax: 0206 222 1112

ADVERTISEMENT INDEX

Alligata.....	65	Livingston.....	89
Arcade.....	26	Logic Sales.....	99
Bargain.....	55	Macmillan.....	IBC
Beyond.....	93	Mailssoft.....	30
Cascade.....	63, 96	Match.....	89
Charnwood.....	113	MegaStore.....	38
Cheetah.....	30, 107	Midbourne House.....	81
Creative Sparks.....	89	Midland Computers.....	89
Cut Price.....	30	Midland Games.....	113
Elite.....	2, 3	Micronet.....	62
English.....	43	Mirrorsoft.....	16, 52
Electric Dreams.....	41	Mosaic.....	33
Empire.....	33	National Westminster Bank.....	67
Faculty.....	33	New Concepts.....	76
Gargoyle Games.....	68	Novagen.....	26
GB Microland.....	27	Ocean.....	49, 90
Good Byte.....	99	Probe.....	17
Grenlin Graphics.....	73	Robtek.....	90
Hewson.....	42	Shekhana.....	31
Imagine.....	12, 13	Supasoft.....	33
Incentive.....	25	Thor/Odin.....	23
Infogrames.....	20	US Gold.....	OBC, 26, 38, 74
JUB.....	30	Video Vault.....	36, 37
JR.....	107	Virgin.....	10
Level 9.....	85	Wow Games.....	86

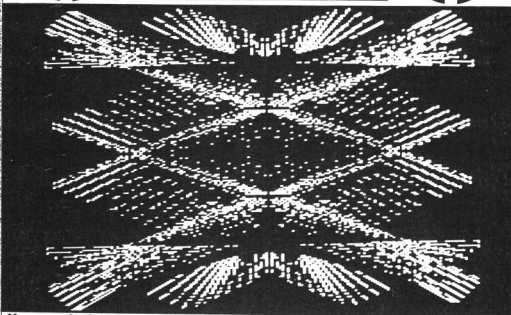
JR SOFTWARE

5 Brookes Court, Baldwin Gardens, London EC1
Telephone: 01-242 5409

SPECTRUM			
Burny McGuffin Boxing	£5.25	Kung Fu Master	£7.25
Back to the Future	£5.25	Kung Fu Master	£7.25
Chase Jack	£5.50	Lazer Basic	£7.40
Desert Rat	£7.40	Mansory	£11.50
Born to Jack	£5.50	Mazzy's Revenge	£5.50
Final Hour	£7.40	Man Hardware	£7.40
Mad Cap	£5.50	Peg Ring	£5.50
Gun Fight	£5.50	Pink Trading	£7.40
Green Beat	£5.50	Power Beat	£5.50
Heavy on the Magic	£7.40	Price of Magic	£7.40
IC	£5.50	Quest Probe	£7.40
Kung Fu	£5.50	Self Construction Set	£11.50
Laser Basic	£11.50	Rock 'n' Roll	£7.25
Master	£5.75	Summer Games II	£7.40
Max Hardware	£7.40	Sky Fox	£7.40
Normal	£5.50	Snake & Mitten	£7.25
Prig Pong	£5.75	Super Bowl	£7.40
Star Wars	£5.50	Star Guide	£5.50
Star Wars II	£7.25	Time Tunnel	£7.40
Star Wars III	£5.50	Tiger	£5.50
Star Wars IV	£5.50	Unicorn	£5.50
Star Wars V	£5.50	Winter Games	£5.50
Star Wars VI	£5.50	20 Games	£7.40
Star Wars VII	£5.50	War Play	£5.50
Star Wars VIII	£5.50	Zoids	£5.50
Star Wars IX	£5.50	Young Ones	£7.25
Star Wars X	£5.50		
Star Wars XI	£5.50		
Star Wars XII	£5.50		
Star Wars XIII	£5.50		
Star Wars XIV	£5.50		
Star Wars XV	£5.50		
Star Wars XVI	£5.50		
Star Wars XVII	£5.50		
Star Wars XVIII	£5.50		
Star Wars XIX	£5.50		
Star Wars XX	£5.50		
Star Wars XXI	£5.50		
Star Wars XXII	£5.50		
Star Wars XXIII	£5.50		
Star Wars XXIV	£5.50		
Star Wars XXV	£5.50		
Star Wars XXVI	£5.50		
Star Wars XXVII	£5.50		
Star Wars XXVIII	£5.50		
Star Wars XXIX	£5.50		
Star Wars XXX	£5.50		
Star Wars XXXI	£5.50		
Star Wars XXXII	£5.50		
Star Wars XXXIII	£5.50		
Star Wars XXXIV	£5.50		
Star Wars XXXV	£5.50		
Star Wars XXXVI	£5.50		
Star Wars XXXVII	£5.50		
Star Wars XXXVIII	£5.50		
Star Wars XXXIX	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXX	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXI	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXII	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXIII	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXIV	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXV	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXVI	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXVII	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXVIII	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXIX	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXX	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXI	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXII	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXIII	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXIV	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXV	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXVI	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXVII	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXVIII	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXIX	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXX	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXI	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXII	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXIII	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXIV	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXV	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXVI	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXVII	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXVIII	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXIX	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXX	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXXI	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXII	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXIII	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXIV	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXV	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXVI	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXVII	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXVIII	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXIX	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXX	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXXI	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXII	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXIII	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXIV	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXV	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXVI	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXVII	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXVIII	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXIX	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXX	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXXI	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXII	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXIII	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXIV	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXV	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXVI	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXVII	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXVIII	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXIX	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXX	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXXI	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXII	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXIII	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXIV	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXV	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXVI	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXVII	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXVIII	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXIX	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXX	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXXI	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXII	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXIII	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXIV	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXV	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXVI	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXVII	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXVIII	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXIX	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXX	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXXI	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXII	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXIII	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXIV	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXV	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXVI	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXVII	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXVIII	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXIX	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXX	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXXI	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXII	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXIII	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXIV	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXV	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXVI	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXVII	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXVIII	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXIX	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXX	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXXI	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXII	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXIII	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXIV	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXV	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXVI	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXVII	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXVIII	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXIX	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXX	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXXI	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXII	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXIII	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXIV	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXV	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXVI	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXVII	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXVIII	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXIX	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXX	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXXI	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXII	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXIII	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXIV	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXV	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXVI	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXVII	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXVIII	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXIX	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXX	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXXI	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXII	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXIII	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXIV	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXV	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXVI	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXVII	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXVIII	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXIX	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXX	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXXI	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXII	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXIII	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXIV	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXV	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXVI	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXVII	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXVIII	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXIX	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXX	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXXI	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXII	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXIII	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXIV	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXV	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXVI	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXVII	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXVIII	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXIX	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXX	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXXI	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXII	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXIII	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXIV	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXV	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXVI	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXVII	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXVIII	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXIX	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXX	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXXI	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXII	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXIII	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXIV	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXV	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXVI	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXVII	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXVIII	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXIX	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXX	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXXI	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXII	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXIII	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXIV	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXV	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXVI	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXVII	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXVIII	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXIX	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXX	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXXI	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXII	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXIII	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXIV	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXV	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXVI	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXVII	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXVIII	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXIX	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXX	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXXI	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXII	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXIII	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXIV	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXV	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXVI	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXVII	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXVIII	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXIX	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXX	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXXI	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXII	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXIII	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXIV	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXV	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXVI	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXVII	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXVIII	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXIX	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXX	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXXI	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXII	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXIII	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXIV	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXV	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXVI	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXVII	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXVIII	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXIX	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXX	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXXI	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXII	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXIII	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXIV	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXV	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXVI	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXVII	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXVIII	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXIX	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXX	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXXI	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXII	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXIII	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXIV	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXV	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXVI	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXVII	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXVIII	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXIX	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXX	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXXI	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXII	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXIII	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXIV	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXV	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXVI	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXVII	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXVIII	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXIX	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXX	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXXI	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXII	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXIII	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXIV	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXV	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXVI	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXVII	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXVIII	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXIX	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXX	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXXI	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXII	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXIII	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXIV	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXV	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXVI	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXVII	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXVIII	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXIX	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXX	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXXI	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXII	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXIII	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXIV	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXV	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXVI	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXVII	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXVIII	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXIX	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXX	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXXI	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXII	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXIII	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXIV	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXV	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXVI	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXVII	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXVIII	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXIX	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXX	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXXI	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXII	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXIII	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXIV	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXV	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXVI	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXVII	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXVIII	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXIX	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXX	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXXI	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXII	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXIII	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXIV	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXV	£5.50		
Star Wars LXXXXXXVI	£5.50		



C+VG COMPETITION



Hey everybody! Look at these really amazing lights — and just listen to the sounds. It's really tubular! Yup, that's right, it is tubular. Tubular Bells — the computer sound and light show from

CRL based around Mike Oldfield's now classic instrumental album.

To celebrate the arrival of this interesting bit of interactive entertainment we've teamed up with CRL to bring you a brilliant prize.

The first prize winner gets a trip to London's amazing Laserium — the place where you can see an incredible laser light show accompanied by some very loud mind-blowing music from all your favourite groups! You'll also be paying a visit to the studio's of the London Broadcasting Company and meeting Clive Bull — the DJ who runs LBC's computer show on Sunday afternoon. And just possibly you might get to see C+VG's Adventure Helpline team in action on the radio too! All that and CRL will pay your train fare as well.

That's the first prize — but 25 runners-up will also get a copy of Tubular Bells for the 64. All you have to do is answer the simple Tubular Bells quiz and send your entry to Computer and Video Games, Tubular Bells Competition, Priory Court, 30-32 Farrington Lane, London EC1R 3AU. Closing date for entries is July 16th and normal C+VG rules apply.

C+VG/CRL TUBULAR BELLS COMPETITION

1. Which famous horror film features music from Tubular Bells in the soundtrack?
2. Name TWO other Mike Oldfield LPs
3. Oranges and Lemons say the bells of Complete this line from a famous nursery song.
4. Name the famous hunchbacked hero who has been featured in a couple of computer games, a few movies and who kept shouting "The Bells! The Bells!"?

Name _____

Address _____

Age _____

MICRO RETAILERS

BERKSHIRE

BRACKNELL COMPUTERS

44 Broadway
Bracknell 0344 427317

SOFTWARE CITY

47 Cheap Street
Newbury
Berk RG1 4SBX 0635 31696

CHESHIRE

NORTHWICH HOME COMPUTERS

79A Wotton Street
Northwich
Cheshire 0606 47883

DERBYSHIRE

FIRST BYTE COMPUTERS

10 Main Centre
London Road
Derby 0332 365 280

ESSEX

MINNIE MICRO COMPUTER CENTRE

11/12 Eastern Esplanade
Southend
Essex 0702 615809/62033

HEREFORDSHIRE

HONEYSETT COMPUTERS

17 Union Street
Hereford HR1 2BT 0432 279404

LONDON

ARCADE SOFTWARE

Unit 202, Shopping Hall
Myrtle Road
East Ham
London E6 01-471 8900

LOGIC SALES

19 The Broadway
The Bourne
Southgate
London N14 01 882 4942

SHEKANA COMPUTERS

221 Tottenham Court Road
London W1 01-800 3156

SOFTWARE CITY

382 Kings Road
London SW3 5UZ 01-352 9220

SOFTWARE STORE

35 London Road
London SW17 01-685 1476

MANCHESTER

BUDGET SOFTWARE CENTRE

51 Fennel Street
Manchester M4 3DY 061-834 2808

SCOTLAND

THE COMPUTER DEPOT

205 Buchanan Street
Glasgow G1 2JZ 041 331 3944

MIDDLESEX

INNOVATIONS, COMPUTER & VIDEO

9 Harmondsworth Road
West Drayton
Middlesex UB7 9JS 0895 420457

JENNINGS STORE

248 Hertford Road
Enfield
Middlesex 01-804 1767

SURREY

SOFTWARE CITY

14 Thames Street
Kingston
Surrey KT1 1PE 01-541 4911

STAFFORDSHIRE

COMPUTER WORLD

42 Marker Street
Longton
Stoke-on-Trent
Staffs. 0782319144

SCOTLAND

LIVINGSTONE COMPUTER CENTRE

17 The Mall
Crofts Hill Shopping Centre
Livingstone
West Lothian EH54 5DZ 0506 36978

WEST MIDLANDS

MBC COMPUTER CENTRE

17-19 Lichfield Street
Wolverhampton 0902 29907/29021

YORKSHIRE

JUST MICRO

22 Carver Street
Sheffield S1 4SS 0742 752732

LOOK & SEE

45 Belmont Bridge
Skipton 0756 60078

MICRO BYTE

36 County Arcade
Leeds 0532 450 529

RECORDMANIA

14 Davy Gate Centre
York 0904 33993

RECORDMANIA

Units 5/6, In-Shops
Market Cross, Selby 0757 700988

DEALERS: If you would like to see your shop included in this new service, please call 01 251 6222 EXT 2461.

MICROSELL

MICROSELLS It costs only £1 to advertise in Microsell

CBM 64 for sale with joystick and games. Titles include Rambo, Worth £400. Sell for £270 ono. Contact A. Deakins, 7 David Place, New Waltham, South Humberston or tel: Grimsby 824486.

Many cheap Spectrum games for sale. Cyberun, E5. Way of the Tiger, E5. Movie, E4. Hypersports, E4. Many more. Send s.a.e. for details to M. Turley, 20 Outram Street, Middlesbrough, TS1 4EL.

Bargain time! Spectrum owners, how would you like to save pounds on computer games. I have over 100 titles at very cheap prices. Like Rambo, £2.99. If you would like to know more, John Stewart, 12 Fairlawn Court, Cherry Orchard Estate, Charlton, London SE7 7DR.

Commodore 64 games to swap. Over 800 titles on super turbo. Phone 0627 287886 and ask for Alex or write to 167 Reindeer Road, Fazley, Tamworth, Staffs B78 3SR.

SPECTRUM DK Tronics light pen, unwanted gift, only used once, still boxed, £15 ono. Write to Jon King, 9 Porthminster Terrace, St Ives, Cornwall TR26 2DQ.

ATARI hyper drive 1050 disk drive enhancement. Easily installed hardware/software package, enables true double density, faster operation and duplication facilities. Similar to Laser. Happy etc. £40. Phone 01-508 2671.

For Sale. Cheapest softwares, latest titles, for your C64 and C28. Eg. International Hockey. We have all sorts of software available for your machine. Send 50p now to get your full list to 75 Mile Street, Sperkbrook, Birmingham B11 1XA.

CBM 64 software to sell, swap. Titles like Green Baret, "V", Bomb Jack and Winter Games. Write or phone Frank Smit, Ekibsonweg 109 1213RX Mchversum Holland 035 48104. Tape only.

VIC-20 Adman speech synthesiser, £20. Also Vic-Rel relay system, £25. Write to Mr S. P. Wyatt, 10 Gordon Terrace, Mundesley, Norwich, Norfolk.

SAGRO ONE real professional keyboard for the spectrum. Perfect condition. Only one month old, cost £80, offers around £5. Ring Sheffield (0742) 331729, and ask for Richard.

COMMODORE 64 games for sale. Ballblazer, Mercenary, Pastfinder, Dropzone, EB each. Theatre Europe, Combat Leader, McGuigans, Falklands 82, Battle of Britain, Snowball, Neverending Story, Bruce Lee, Combat Lynx, E5 each. Phone Damian. 091 4160643 after 5pm.

Software to swap for the ZX Spectrum games like Minder, Ghostbusters, Decathlon and many more. If you're interested, send a s.a.e. to Ashley Bowman, 12 Dunsdale Rd, Holywell, Whitley Bay NE25 0NG.

CBM 64 games for sale. From 50p + P&P. Many games less than half price. Eg. LCP E5. For full list s.a.e. to M. D. Bull, 2 Sara Close, Four Oaks, Sutton Coldfield, West Midlands.

COMMODORE 64 + C2N treecorder, 3 joysticks and over £800 worth of original games including Uridium, Elite, Frankie, Summer Games 1 & 2, Kung Fu, etc. Cost £1100. Accept 350 ono. Tel: Maidenhead (0628) 38545.

For Sale: Atari VCSA 2600 games console, with 4 games: Kangaroo, Donkey Kong, Robot Tank Ramit, Plus joystick. As new, boxed. Only £30 ono. Tel: 0924 498248 evenings, ring David.

Spectrum games for sale. Include Hyper Sports, Superstep, Winter Games, Commando, Barry McGuigan Boxing, Adrien Mole and many more. Also VIC20 games and tape cassette. Write to Richard Forrest, 22 Cloverdale, Cotgrave, South Notts, NG12 3NJ.

Spectrum hardware: Currah speech synthesiser (with tape & manual) £15. Datal electronic joystick interface & free computer dustcover £7. All boxed as new. Write to Chris Jackson, 3 Albion Terrace, Letcham Road, Litcham, Kings Lynn, Norfolk PE32 2Q. Please pay by PO or cheque.



Non-bowling

COMPUTER + VIDEO GAMES
30-32 FARRINGTON LANE
LONDON, EC3R 3AU



● For almost two years, since the July 1984 issue, I have been loyal to C+VG, but, lately there has been a lapse in the presentation of what used to be an excellent magazine. This drop in standards seems to co-incide with the introduction of the new C+VG. Can we wait for the return of what was the best magazine on the market.

October 1985 seems to be the turning point on the scene of computer magazines, but, recently, your challenge has got worse. I am now talking about competitions, ie, the February issue — Superbowl competition. We were asked to complete the names of American Football teams from stated cities. One of your cities just happened to be New York. New York has two American football sides, the Jets and the Giants. That is the reason for the inclusion of a SAE, so you can explain your reasons and your answers (if you don't print your reply, ashamed of yourself).

The next complaint on the competition front that springs to mind is the Southern Belle competition in May. The questions referred to three trains, but what three trains? I presume you mean the silhouettes printed above, but, in the WRONG ORDER!

It hasn't past my notice that you now print competition winners and have improved the letters page, but, it's no competition for other mags. When I compare other magazines, I speak in the context of presentation and colour — have you ever heard of these two words.

So, buck up your ideas or I will withdraw my subscription from my newswagent.

*Derek Farquhar,
Nottingham*

B-Con replies: Oh dear! After all those nice things the last person said about the magazine, too!

The designer has been walking around in a decidedly funny mood since he read your letter, muttering "artistic impression" and "talentless fools". We think he's a bit strange anyway. Still, we've noted your points, and will try to enlighten him, gradually.

Now, onto your second point, the competitions. The

Superbowl comp did New York as one of the listed cities. The fact that New York has two teams makes it rather easier for the entrants! We have accepted either team.

The Southern Belle comp, did contain an error, although we don't think that it made the competition impossible. If the entrants knew the answers to the questions, it would be easy for them to indicate this. We accept, though, that each train should have been numbered.

We most certainly have heard of colour and presentation! The newer issues contain more colour and design work than ever before. The Mailbag, as we continually remind readers, is a representation of their views. We print the letters which we receive. You wouldn't want us to start making them up, now, would you?

● You devote far too much space in the mag to Mr Campbell. I mean, I understand that a lot of people enjoy adventure games, but can so many pages each month be justified?

Despite these complaints, I must congratulate you on your features. They are a welcome diversion for people who are not utterly obsessed with computers. Why don't you branch out further to cover some other areas from time to time? I'm sure the readers would be interested.

I hope you consider these points, even if my letter isn't printed. With a little more thought, I think you'll be able to retain your position as one of the market leaders.

*Matt Dougherty,
Parley,
Surrey*

B-Con replies: Hurrah! At last, someone who has got their head screwed on! Just between me and you, Matt, it isn't easy working in an office, surrounded by electronic wizards. It can be utterly depressing — and very confusing — when the entire conversation of a morning consists of hundreds of various technical words: Bit Drive/Contronics/Coffee etc.

The separate articles, such

as movies, music and other entertainments are my favourite part of the magazine, too. Provided that we can persuade the Editor that other people think so too, we should be able to provide you with more of this sort. That is, of course, if the "public" think it's a good thing.

Keith Campbell is of the office at the time of writing, so I can't say what his reaction is to your comments about space. The sub-editor has been muttering to himself since he read your letter. I don't know whether it's pleasure or disgust, but he's a little mysterious anyway. Do other readers think that the Adventure section is too large, too small or too prominent?

● When I read a review I usually take it that the reviewer has made an indepth study of the game, therefore, giving it as fair a rating as possible (considering of course the short amount of time he can look at any one game).

Well, I'm sorry but your review of 'Starship Andromeda' was the most incompetent I think I have ever read. Your reviewer says that the game is so impossible to get into that he gave up, well, if he'd taken the time to read the info card he would have seen that it actually tells you how to start. I won't bore you with the details, suffice to say that the game will then open up.

I have only actually played the game once but, I have already finished the two planets containing Zynon and Tryst, manoeuvring through a deep canyon, dodging tanks and asteroids, all in the first scenario and in the second battled with a rotating space station and then attempted to manoeuvre my men through an airlock into the station.

These are all in the first two scenarios and the entire game contains five. So, I think you will find that the actual game deserves a 10/10 for value unlike your reviewer's 5/10.

To be honest the game is not a classic but its most certainly a good one deserving perhaps 8 or 9 in the other three categories. It's sad that such a worthy game was given such a

sloppy review when trash like Samantha Fox receives a better rating over all. Shame on you.
*Eamonn Cleary
N Ireland*

B-Con replies: Steady on! Poor old Otiss (for it was he who was responsible for the erroneous review) has just scuttled off into a corner, wailing "I told them not to use the blasted review". He really is quite upset. His story — which we all reckon is a bit dodgy, but you can never tell with Otiss — goes like this...

"Aristoasoft neglected to supply us with full instructions (boo hiss!) and so we had to plod on with the game without them. After finding myself completely stuck, the game was shelved, and a partial review was written, with the intention of re-writing when a proper copy of both game and instructions arrived. As time went on, nothing appeared, and the Editor missed the fact that the offending item and been included in the review pages."

Poor old Otiss has been trying to explain that it "wasn't really" his mistake ever since.

Despite your rough treatment of poor old Otiss, your letter did make it easier for us to clarify the matter. As for your 10/10 for value, is anything worth 100 per cent of the price you pay? What do you, the C+VG readers think?

● I just thought I'd write and tell you, that for the first time in my life, I save your magazine. Where? Why here of course, in sunny Saudi.

No, contrary to popular opinion I haven't been living in the Dark Ages, I just have not seen your mag in Scotland, where I normally live.

But now that I have had a chance to read it, I shall continue to buy it whenever I see it. You have another convert to the cause. (What's that noise in the background? Why it's you guys cheating).

Seriously though, it's the best of the breed as far as I'm concerned. So keep up the good work, and even if you can't get enough supplies up there to Bonnie Scotland, try to



keep your exports to Saudi coming through. I'll let you know when I get back home about supplies there.

If you should send me a T-shirt, make it an X-L, and to save postage, send it to my Scottish address which follows.

Anyway thanks for a few hours of entertainment out here, and I can assure you, the mag will be read by quite a few Ex-Pats, as I got the only copy in the store.

John C. Marshall,
Name and Address Supplied

B-Con replies: Gosh! Looking round the room I can truthfully say that every member of the team is blushing! Such kind words! What's all this about the magazine not being available in Bonnie Scotland, though? Knowing a large number of the Scottish community (that funny scarlet-haired designer is a prime example) I can assure you that C+VG should be readily available up there. We'll be sending a team of, erm, "representatives" to the northern climes to explain the immense advantages of stocking C+VG regularly (lower medical bills, for example).

Your request for a T-shirt caused a rather deathly silence to fall over the office. Our chief clothing distribution droid, Alvin, has been a bit over-worked of late, and as a result, we're running rather low on the infamous garments. Just as soon as we've got him loaded with some more 3 in 1, though, we'll be back in working order.

If any other readers have had problems getting hold of a regular supply of the magazine, or have managed to pick up a copy in some bizarre locations, drop us a line and let us know.

● Why don't you get rid of the mailbag pages? I find them boring and most of the letters seem to be copies of ones seen before somewhere.

Seriously, though, I think listings are an important aspect of computers and much can be learnt from them, and yes, people do spend hours typing

them in — and even longer writing and de-bugging them in the first place — and if you expect the end result to be stunning then you may well be disappointed. However not all are bad.

Although I agree with Robin Webb, that most listings are ancient, I don't think it is a good idea to drop them. C+VG and a certain weekly mag are the only source of listings now. Besides, if you drop everything people suggest from time to time, you may as well produce a magazine of blank pages and supply a pen for them to fill it in as they like. Or, failing that, why not make it loose leaf, then any disliked pages can be removed and replaced by others which have been removed and left in the shop by people who dislike them etc — silly ain't it.

Steve Saunderscales
West Yorks

B-Con replies: Thanks for your comments. We'll certainly keep them in mind when it comes to the IDEAS Central Board Meeting. However, we feel that the continuation or otherwise of listings is a very important issue, and we'd like to hear other reader's opinions too. Get rid of the Mailbag pages? What? And who would you have to complain to when you feel the urge? Seriously, though, we find the Mailbag a vital source of information about our readers. It's the way you can air your views.

● Well mucked up C+VG! In last month's edition of the Top Ten Gallup games, I think the C64 and the BBC ratings were the wrong way round and also in the second mailbag page, the C+VG Mailbag was upside down. Was this deliberate or accidental? Come on C+VG, you can do better!

David Ince,
Jersey

B-Con says: Oops! It looks like you're right on one account anyway, David. The Top Ten ratings were the wrong way round. You just can't trust humans can you? You never get robot error, do you?

As for the Mailbag logo, apparently Otiss knocked it over during his short stay at the Mailbag! He's now banned from touching any pages. Our designer Craig has threatened to go for his circuits with a Scalpel

● Okay then, I give up. You, and all other computer magazines have finally defeated me after I have bravely travelled through many mags searching for a review for the Oric. Don't you selfish morons realise that people still do have Orics.

We'll done to Domark, they have brought out A View to a Kill for the Oric, but for £10.99 — a little overpriced. £7.95 is the price that I shall be paying for it. I hope that when Live

and Let Die is available I shall be able to buy it for the Oric.

Also, please stop printing listings. One percent of people type them in four hours. As for competitions, there are people out here who own other machines apart from Specs, Coms and Amstrads.

One last thing, do you know of any Oric clubs. If so, how can I get in touch?

Robert Cook
Birmingham

B-Con replies: Good grief! It seems that you can't satisfy all of the people all of the time! Whenever we write reports on diverse computers, the mighty wrath of the established lobby (Spec/IBM users) complain that it's all "old hat", and then we get hassled for NOT dealing with these machines! It's not fair!!





Mailbag

COMPUTER + VIDEO GAMES
30-32 FARRINGTON LANE
LONDON, EC1R 3AU



Well, we've had enough of it! We can't review non-existent software. If the companies decide to produce games, we'll do our level best to cover them. We haven't seen an *Oric* game for some considerable time now, have we, fellas (general murmurs of agreement from around the office). Perhaps your complaint should be directed toward those who should be producing games for the machine?

The listings debate is a bit of an old chestnut, in fact. As I type, the Editor is trying to explain the merits of numbers on a page, instead of the *Bug Hunters*. Personally, I'd rather have the *Bug Hunters*, but in the end, the readers will decide—or so He keeps telling us...

If anyone would like to give Robert information about *Oric* clubs, why not drop us a line, and we'll forward the information.

● Stretch your mind back to summer 1983. At that time *C+VG* was one of the best magazines available. Then you blew it!

C+VG brought in its "fabulous new look", which destroyed everything the old

style created. The main points of error were the following:

Reviews — this used to be the best section of the magazine. It is now easily the worst. Each review used to be fairly long, and always had a colour screen shot to go with it. Now they are short, and in black and white.

Letters Page — this was also very good, until you introduced your new look. Now it fills up about two pages. You ought to realise that this is a very important section, as it gives the reader a chance to voice his opinions.

Playing Tips — should be longer, much longer.

Listings — drop them! The *Book of Games* was the only good thing that ever came out of the change. It meant that I could throw them away without ripping up the mag.

Artwork — who is your artist? Whoever he is, sack him! He is awful!

Number of pages — who has your mag shrunk over the past year? I have an old copy from 1983, which has about 150 pages in it.

The *Bug Hunters* — I have

never seen such rubbish in my life. I suggest that you scrap them at once.

My advice would be to totally remould the whole magazine starting from the next issue. It is vital, before you lose more readers than you already have. It is for your own good.

Admit it *C+VG*, the space age look does not work. You have become a total copy of *Computer Gamer*, which is easily the worst magazine on the market. Don't sink to their depths!

I don't expect you will print this letter, as it tells you the opposite of what you want to hear, but even so, you must act on it. Go back to the old style before it is too late!

Jim MacDonald
Staffs

B-Con replies: Talk about living in the past! *C+VG* now has more reviews pages per issue than it ever did before. And despite what you say Jim, there's more colour too. And if

it's length you are talking about just look at last issue when we devoted an unprecedented page and a half to one game! The letters pages have also rarely been longer than two pages — and we don't really want to fill them with letters like this anyway! Playing tips? We've done a game's players guide almost every issue since Christmas PLUS the normal IDEAS CENTRAL pages. Our survey says that people like our listings — especially professionally written ones like the *Wizard of Tallyron* which came with the offer of a tape copy. And we'll be doing more of these in the future! Ed says. The size of the issue? Well it gets smaller during the summer and larger around the Autumn time — and has always done this. In any event the number of editorial pages stays the same. Your comment about our artist. Well what do you actually mean? We use lots of different artists in *C+VG* unlike some other magazines. In any event you won't find better artwork in many other mags. And I think you'll find that many magazines have copied *C+VG*'s new style — not the other way around! And as for losing readers — jeez Jim, where have you been hiding your head? We are now the best selling computer games magazine in the WORLD. We've increased our sales by around 10,000 on our last ABC figure.

IS IT TRUE
THAT OTISS DOES
THE ADVERTS FOR
MICHELIN?

Picture this!

Your very own Polaroid camera to take embarrassing pictures of your friends and family with. And one of these nifty cameras could be yours if you enter our Splitting Image competition next issue. Domark are the people behind this entertaining new game and they want to put you in the picture. Every image conscious computer owner should grab a copy of C+VG in July.



The French Connection. Find out what's happening over the Channel next issue when Tilt magazine's Nathalie Meistermann explains the reason behind the recent explosion of exciting Gallic games. Brush up your French in time for August's C+VG, on sale July 16th.

The Atari ST and Commodore Amiga are in the forefront of a whole new generation of super-computers.

Next issue we take a look at the shape of things to come in a special supplement. The machines, the games, the future — all will be revealed in just 28 days time. Can you wait that long?



Cyborg is the first in a trilogy of exciting new games from CRL and we've got an exclusive preview of this new game from new programmers. Watch for the Cyborg on the cover!



Infocom. The name that adventurers speak in hushed tones of reverence. And next issue our Master Adventurer, Keith Campbell interviews Brian Moriarty and brings you a preview of the latest adventure from the Infocom team called *Trinity*. Then there's more on the search for the C+VG Adventurer of the Year, plus a generous helping of the Adventure Helpline(tm) and all the games fit to review. All in just 28 days time

PLUS: The free pull-out Cauldron II full colour map!

The Wizard of Tallyron returns next issue for another all-new adventure for you and your Spectrum. Called *Tallyron 2: Beneath the World*, this new listing takes the Tallyron team into the realms of a dank dungeon full of evil nasties. Created by Mike Turner of Star Dreams the program features 3D graphics. And if you don't want to type it all in then there's a special tape offer exclusive to C+VG readers. So don't forget to conjure up a copy of your favourite computer games magazine next month!

POPEYE



© 1984 King Features Syndicate, Inc.



Macmillan
Software

Take a one-eyed, spinach-eating sailor with "fisks" at the ready. Add a sweet patootie who is all woman minus the curves. Mess it all up with pea-brained Bluto and what do you have?

A roof-raisin' arcade adventure, featuring giant-sized Popeye and crew in multi-dimension action.

The Crash Smash now available on Commodore 64/128K

£7.95

Coming this Autumn

Spectrum 48K/128K
Amstrad

£7.95

£7.95

Available through your local retailer. Or in the case of difficulty write to:
Macmillan Software, 4 Little Essex Street, LONDON WC2. Tel: (01) 836 6633

HOW DO
YOU LIKE
IT?



GET YOUR NAME ON THE LEADERBOARD

If you have ever bought another golf simulator – shoot yourself!
If you are ever considering it – save yourself a bullet!

ZZAP64

Quite honestly, leaderboard makes all other golf simulations look clumsy and antiquated in comparison.

ZZAP64

This is the sports simulation of the year – if not the decade!

ZZAP64



And swing your way to a record round

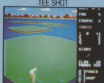
Now you can become a golf pro and experience the thrill of having your name up on the "Leaderboard". With this amazingly realistic simulation you get a true perspective view of your golf game.

As you play on different 18 hole courses on levels varying from amateur to touring professional you'll need skill concentration and control to come in under par.

CBM 64/128 Coming soon for Spectrum and Amstrad

Features:

- Choice of club, distance, type of shot (hook, slice, putting) and more
- Realistic Sound
- Practice Driving Range
- Joystick Controlled
- Multiple 18 Hole Golf Courses
- Automatic Scoring



U. S. Gold, Unit 10, The Parkway Industrial Centre, Heneage Street, BIRMINGHAM B7 4LY. Tel. No. 021 3593020